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Thursday

FEBRUARY 10, 2011 | A PUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | NEWS, ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, LIFESTYLES | FREE DAILY



BATTLE FOR VIRGINIA

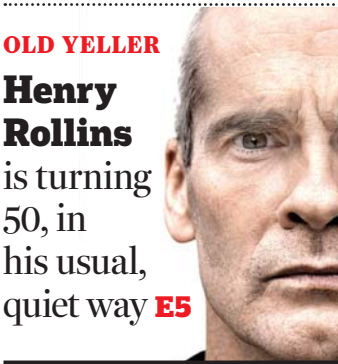
Webb's departure gives Republicans a prime opportunity **13**

A HEAVY TOLL

An alarming rise in young stroke victims is blamed on obesity **3**

OLD YELLER

Henry Rollins is turning 50, in his usual, quiet way **E5**



FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 29

"Did I say that out loud?"
Test your acronym acuity inside.

Letters Out Loud

WTF, when did everyone start speaking like text messages? **11**

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

eo

eye openers

‘It’s Complicated’ Indeed

A California police department was called Monday to mediate a Facebook battle. A Grass Valley woman called Monday to complain that her ex had posted photos of her and refused to take them down. The man told authorities he’d removed the pictures. Two hours later, the ex called the police to report that the woman had posted nude photos of him on her Facebook page. Officers convinced the woman to delete the images. (AP)

“They can take something that’s just lying around and swap it for something they can take home and make love, not war with.”

— **SHERRI WILLIAMS**, OWNER OF PLEASURES, A HUNTSVILLE, ALA., SEX SHOP. THROUGH TUESDAY, CUSTOMERS CAN SWAP FIREARMS FOR ASSORTED EROTIC MERCHANDISE.

Entire United States Is 12

A beloved former Fort Wayne, Ind., mayor who won four terms in the 1930s and 1950s is proving less popular with modern-day city leaders, who are balking at naming a new government center after him. The problem: Harry Baals pronounced his last name “balls.” (His descendants changed it to “bales.”) Supporters said it’s unfair that the former mayor can’t be recognized because his name makes some people snicker. (AP)

The Big Picture



LONDON’S NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM debuted its “Sexual Nature” exhibition to the media on Wednesday. The show reveals some of nature’s most bizarre and intimate secrets, and will be open to the public from Friday to Oct. 2. The image above shows how beetles evolved. (GETTY)

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In Brief

BOISE, IDAHO

Long-Sought Mob Boss Found, Pleads Not Guilty

Federal agents caught up with a fugitive wanted for trying to kill a New England mob boss more than a decade ago, arresting him at his rural Idaho home where they seized dozens of guns and \$15,000, authorities said Wednesday. Enrico M. Ponzo, 42, pleaded not guilty to a long list of charges against him. (AP)

GREENVILLE, S.C.

Mom: Woman Who Left Baby in Toilet Amnesiac

A South Carolina woman accused of giving birth Friday in an arena toilet and leaving her baby to die didn't know she was pregnant and can't remember the birth, her mother told a judge Wednesday. Jessica Blackham, 24, who was charged Tuesday with child abuse, is also mother to a 4-year-old, police said. (AP)

WASHINGTON

Lee Resigns House Seat After Flirtation Claims

Rep. Chris Lee, R-N.Y., resigned Wednesday, just hours after the gossip website Gawker posted a shirtless picture of Lee. The website claimed the picture said was part of a correspondence between the congressman and a woman who was not his wife. (THE WASHINGTON POST). (AP)

Stroke Risks Rise In Younger Crowd

Obesity is likely taking an 'alarming' toll on Americans, doctors say

Los Angeles

Strokes are rising dramatically among young and middle-aged Americans while dropping in older people, a sign that the obesity epidemic may be starting to reshape the age burden of the disease.

The numbers, reported Wednesday at an American Stroke Association conference, come from the first large nationwide study of stroke hospitalizations by age. Government researchers compared hospitalizations in 1994 and 1995 with ones in 2006 and 2007.

The sharpest increase — 51 percent — was among men 15 through 34. Strokes rose among women in this age group, too, but not as fast — 17 percent.

"It's definitely alarming," said Dr. Ralph Sacco, American Heart Association president and a neurologist at the University of Miami.

"We have worried for a while that

Swig of Danger?

New research raises concerns about diet soda, finding a 48 percent higher risk for stroke or heart attack among people who drink it every day versus those who drink no soda at all. A simple solution, health experts say, is to drink water instead. (AP)



the increased prevalence of obesity in children and young adults may take its toll in cardiovascular disease and stroke," and that appears to be happening, he said.

Stroke still takes its highest toll on older people. For those over 65, there were nearly 300 stroke cases among 10,000 hospitalizations in the more

Grim Trend

For every 10,000 hospitalizations in 1994-95 compared with 2006-07, strokes rose:



among males
15 to 34 years old



among females
15 to 34 years old



among males
35 to 44 years old



among females
35 to 44 years old

recent period studied. Still, strokes dropped 25 percent among men 65 and older and 28 percent among women in this age group.

Early estimates from 2007 death certificates suggest that stroke is now the nation's fourth-leading cause of death instead of the third, partly because of better treatments and prevention among the elderly.

Better awareness and better methods for detecting strokes could account for some of the change.

Several studies had recently suggested an ominous rise among the young and among middle-aged women.

Better awareness of stroke symptoms and better imaging methods for detecting strokes could account for some change, said Dr. Mary George, a stroke researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Allison Hooker, a nurse at Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem, N.C., said her hospital also is seeing more strokes in younger people with such risk factors as smoking, obesity, high blood pressure and alcohol overuse.

"I'd say at least half of our population [of stroke patients] is in their 40s or early 50s," she said, "and devastating strokes, too." (AP)

\$74B The amount that House GOP leaders proposed in cuts to President Obama's budget request for the current fiscal year. Wednesday's list of cuts included high-speed rail and clean energy programs. Republicans plan to unveil a full list Thursday. The plan could head to House consideration next week. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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Nation

In Latest Milestone,
Giffords Speaking

Progress continues
in rehab with toast
request, aide says

Phoenix

Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is speaking for the first time since she was shot in the forehead, her spokesman said Wednesday, yet another significant milestone in her recovery.

Giffords first spoke within the past few days and is speaking “more and more,” spokesman C.J. Karamargin said Wednesday. He didn’t know what her first words were but said at breakfast one morning that she asked for toast.

“She’s working very hard, and it’s paying off,” he said. “We’re elated at this.”

Six people were killed in the Jan. 8 attack at a grocery store where Giffords was meeting with constituents. Thirteen people, including Giffords, were injured.

In a Facebook post on Tuesday,

High Hopes

NASA astronaut Mark Kelly, Rep. Gabrielle Giffords’ husband, said last week that he expects his wife to be well enough to be at his space launch. The space shuttle Endeavour will leave April 19 with Kelly leading its final flight, a two-week mission to the International Space Station. Dr. Gerard Francisco, who is treating Giffords at a rehabilitation facility in Houston, said Tuesday that he hopes Giffords can make enough progress to attend the launch but that it’s too early to say. (AP)

Giffords’ husband, Mark Kelly, said his wife had her appetite back and was eating three times a day.

“It is hard to believe that only one month has passed since Gabrielle was shot,” he wrote. “The doctors say she is recovering at lightning speed considering her injury but they aren’t kidding when they say this is a marathon process.” (AP)

Another Blizzard Wallops Great Plains



A MAN CLEARS SNOW

from the sidewalks in Enid, Okla., on Wednesday after the second massive snowstorm in a little more than a week dropped more than a foot of snow in parts of the region before targeting the Deep South.

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Labor Unrest Erupts in Egypt

Thousands of state workers go on strike despite VP's warning

Cairo

Thousands of state workers and impoverished Egyptians went on strike Wednesday after weeks of anti-government protests cast a spotlight on corruption and the wealth amassed by those in power in a country where almost half the people live near the poverty line.

The protests calling for President Hosni Mubarak's ouster have been spreading since Tuesday outside of Cairo's Tahrir Square, where they have been concentrated for the past week. On Wednesday, demonstrators also gathered at parliament, the Cabinet and the Health Ministry buildings, all a few blocks from the square. Prime Minister Ahmed Shafiq was working out of the Civil Aviation Ministry on the other side of the city because his office was blocked by protesters.

For the first time, protesters were forcefully urging labor strikes



Egyptian anti-government protesters hold their national flag as they shout slogans against President Hosni Mubarak outside the Egyptian Parliament in Cairo.

despite a warning by Vice President Omar Suleiman that calls for civil disobedience are "very dangerous for society, and we can't put up with this at all." His warnings Tuesday were taken by protesters as a thinly veiled threat of another crackdown.

Strikes erupted in a breadth of sectors — among railway and

bus workers, state electricity staff and service technicians at the Suez Canal, in factories manufacturing textiles, steel and beverages, and at least one hospital.

"They were motivated to strike when they heard about how many billions the Mubarak family was worth," said Kamal Abbas, a labor leader.

Leverage

The United States should use its billions in aid to Egypt as leverage to force a transition to democracy, foreign policy experts told lawmakers Wednesday in Congress' first hearing since massive anti-government demonstrations for the ouster of President Hosni Mubarak. The Obama administration and Congress have struggled with the vexing problem of how to embrace a powerful democratic movement while dealing with longtime ally Mubarak, who clings to power despite the clamor for him to step down. (AP)

Egyptians have been infuriated by newspaper reports that the Mubarak family has amassed billions, and perhaps tens of billions of dollars in wealth while, according to the World Bank, about 40 percent of the country's 80 million people live below or near the poverty line of \$2 a day.

Growing labor unrest is adding a new dimension to the pressures for Mubarak to step down. (AP)

In Brief

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

2 Koreas End Defense Talks Without Progress

North Korean military officers stalked out of the first official talks with rival South Korea in months Wednesday, dashing hopes for eased tensions after a deadly artillery attack in November. The meeting was sunk because the two sides disagreed about what should be on the agenda of their next talks. (AP)

LONDON

British Police: Thousands Affected in Hacking Case

British police revealed Wednesday they would contact thousands of people whose cell phones may have been targeted by the News of the World tabloid, an indication of the scale of the scandal at the heart of Rupert Murdoch's media empire. Police have long insisted only a small number of people were believed to have been have been spied upon. (AP)



Late for an Important Date: A church in Brazil is trying to crack down on tardy brides by fining them \$300 for showing up late to their own weddings because it's a common tradition there for brides to arrive at least 10 minutes late. Priest Roberto Carrara is tired of wedding delays' disrupting scheduled Masses and other ceremonies. Couples would be required to leave a \$300 check as deposit and can get it back only if they're on time to the church. (AP)

\$150M

The estimated worth of the oil on a Greek-flagged supertanker that Somali pirates captured in the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday. Pirates currently hold 29 ships and roughly 660 hostages. (AP)



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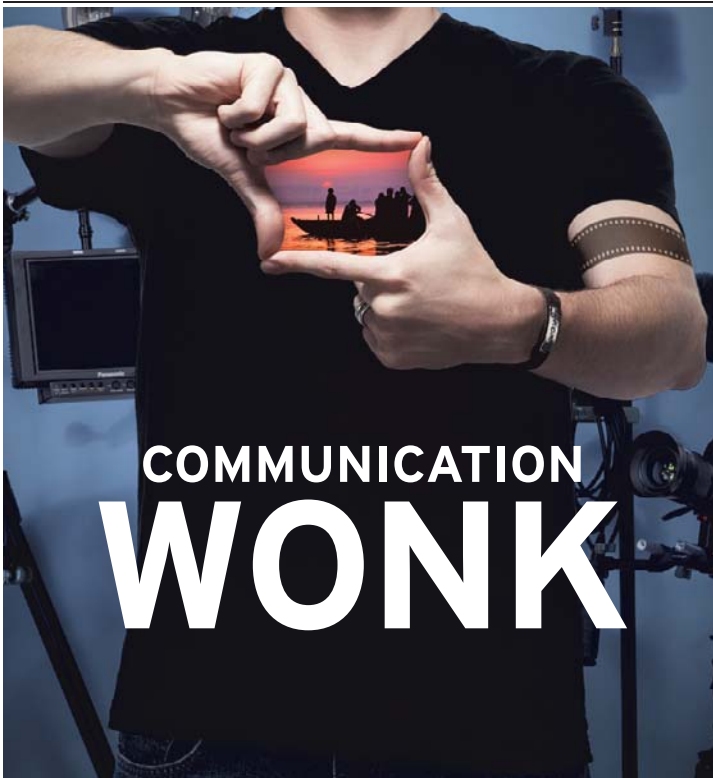
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World

Berlusconi Decries Trial

Italian PM: Charges of sex cover-up offend dignity of country

Milan

Premier Silvio Berlusconi faced the most serious challenge yet to his grip on power as Italian prosecutors sought to put him on trial in a seamy prostitution scandal involving a 17-year-old Moroccan girl that has both titillated and divided the nation.

The prosecutors filed a request Wednesday for Berlusconi to be tried quickly in Milan, on charges the 74-year-old leader had sex with the girl and then tried to cover it up by using his power. Moments later, speaking in Rome, Berlusconi accused them of seeking to topple his government, saying they had "offended the dignity of the



Child Prostitution Charge

The prosecutors assert that Premier Silvio Berlusconi paid for sex with the girl, nicknamed Ruby, who has since turned 18, then used his influence to get her out of police custody when she was detained in an unrelated suspected theft of \$4,103. Berlusconi's supporters say he made the call to Milan police only to avert a diplomatic incident because Berlusconi believed at the time that the girl was the niece of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. (AP)

country" with a smear campaign and groundless allegations. "I'm not worried in the slightest," Berlusconi said Wednesday of the prostitution case.

Though Berlusconi is no stranger to legal cases, this is the first judicial action against the three-time premier and media billionaire to impugn his personal conduct, rather than his business dealings. The case raises ques-

tions about Berlusconi's ability to govern effectively under mounting legal pressure.

A judge now must decide whether to dismiss the prosecutors' request or go ahead with a trial — which would add to the premier's already substantial legal worries. A decision is expected within two weeks, just as two unrelated trials and one preliminary legal hearing are about to resume in Milan. (AP)

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The Orange and Blue Lines between Metro Center and L'Enfant Plaza stations will be closed from 10 p.m. Friday, February 18 until 5 a.m. Tuesday, February 22.

Federal Triangle and Smithsonian stations will also be closed.

●● Station and track closing

From 10 p.m. Friday, February 18 until 5 a.m. Tuesday, February 22, Metro crews will replace four track switches at Smithsonian station to comply with National Transportation Safety Board recommendations.

Federal Triangle and Smithsonian stations — as well as the Orange and Blue Lines between Metro Center and L'Enfant Plaza stations — will be closed.

Avoiding the work area

You may transfer at Metro Center and L'Enfant Plaza and detour through Gallery Pl-Chinatown station using the Red and Yellow/Green lines. Or you may use the free shuttle bus service (with free transfers in and out of the rail system). Buses will loop between Metro Center and L'Enfant Plaza stations approximately every 10 minutes with stops near Smithsonian and Federal Triangle stations.



At Metro Center station, the bus stop will be in the northbound lane of 11th Street between F and G streets, NW.



At L'Enfant Plaza station, the bus stop will be in the eastbound lane of Maryland Avenue at 7th Street SW (in front of station entrance).

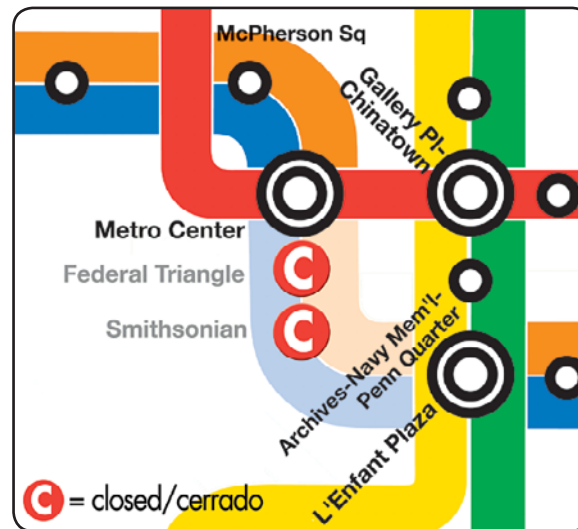


At Smithsonian station, the bus stop will be in the westbound lane of Independence Avenue, just east of 12th Street SW.



At Federal Triangle station, the bus stop will be in the northbound lane of 12th Street near the station entrance.

Signs will direct you to the shuttle bus stops.



If you plan to use Metrorail through the work area, please add 40 minutes to your trip time.

● Red Line single-tracking

Over this weekend, Metro will also perform work on two sections of the Red Line:

- Between Shady Grove and Twinbrook stations. Trains will share one track to allow for platform repairs at Rockville station.
- Between New York Ave-Florida Ave-Gallaudet U and Rhode Island Ave-Brentwood stations. Trains will share one track to allow for ongoing rehabilitation of the Red Line.

This work will require trains to share one track through the affected areas and could increase your trip time by up to 20 minutes.

For more information on this important work, please visit MetroOpensDoors.com or call 202-637-7000.



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Little

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To Be Sick

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I Don't Even Know
What That Is

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Hello And
Welcome To Last
Week

"People have been complaining about what the kids are doing to the language since ancient times, and Latin. Language is always changing. It's a fact of life."

— **ROBERT LANE GREENE**, AUTHOR OF THE UPCOMING BOOK "YOU ARE WHAT YOU SPEAK" AND A SELF-DESCRIBED LINGUISTICS NUT WHO DOESN'T BUY INTO THE CONCERN THAT KIDS ARE DESTROYING OUR LANGUAGE.

very presidential."

But the chatter died down quickly, and Palin is not the only prominent person to use the expression on TV recently. On "Anderson Cooper 360" Monday night, the host was commenting on rapper B.o.B.'s use of an airplane's public address system to perform for the captive passengers. "WTF, B.o.B.?" Cooper asked.

Imagine if he'd said the actual words — a quick call from network executives might have ensued. But WTF seems to have become a winking way of saying something with a little edge, a little bite, without being truly offensive.

It can also be a good icebreaker with an audience. "I do a lot of public speaking," says Maushart, the mother of three, who is also an author (the recent "Winter of our Disconnect"). "And if there is one utterance that I always know will get a laugh, it is WTF. It establishes that you are kind of with it."

K-DOT

And so she doesn't mind when her kids use it. If only she could keep up with all their other acronyms. They've graduated from the simple LOL and LOLOL to LMAO — literally, laughing so hard that part of your body comes off (for extra credit, use LMAOOTF — it means it's all happening on the floor.)

Her youngest, Sussy, 16, seems particularly advanced. These days, she has started saying "K-Dot." Translation: OK, but with a finality to it, as in, end of discussion, "K" followed by a period, ergo: "K-Dot."

Not avant-garde enough for you? Try this: Sussy also is known to SPEAK a question mark when asking a question, as in: "Do you really want me to do that, question mark?" **JOCELYN NOVECK (AP)**

How the advent of Twitter language and texting has changed the way we speak

New York

"ILY!" Susan Maushart's 16-year-old daughter often calls out over her shoulder as she leaves the house. Sure, actual words would be better. But Mom knows not to complain.

"A mother of teenagers is pathetically grateful for an 'I love you' no matter what form it takes," she observes.

Then there are the various forms of "LOL" that her teens use in regular parlance — it's become a conjugable verb by now. And of course, there's the saltier acronym used by son Bill: "WTF, Mom?!" But before you judge, note that former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin just used that one in a TV interview. And CNN's Anderson Cooper used it on his show the other night.

OMG

Acronyms have been around for years. But with the advent of text and Twitter language, it certainly feels like we're speaking in groups of capital letters a lot more. It's a question that intrigues linguists and other language aficionados — even though they'll tell you they have absolutely no concrete research on it.

"It's fascinating," says Scott Kies-

ling, a socio-linguist and professor at the University of Pittsburgh. "What is it that makes OMG and WTF and LOL so useful that they spread from the written to the spoken form?"

One possibility, Kiesling proposes, is that some of these acronyms actually become a whole new thought, expressing something different than the words that form them. For example: "You wouldn't say, 'OMG, that person just jumped off a cliff,'" he explains. "But you'd say, 'OMG, do you see those red pants that person is wearing?'"

WTF

Which brings us to WTF, an acronym that needs no translation. When Palin used the expression recently in a Fox News interview — twice in two sentences, actually — some pundits were a little shocked. (Palin was playing on the president's "Win the Future" message in his State of the Union speech.)

"That's going to be a tough one for her to come back from and explain," remarked conservative commentator Pat Buchanan on MSNBC's "Morning Joe." Host Joe Scarborough simply shook his head and said: "Not

Backstory

Acronyms date back to ancient times, as Robert Lane Greene, author of the upcoming book "You Are What You Speak," points out — the Romans and the Greeks used them. In the United States, they came into prominence in the early 20th century with the New Deal, the series of economic programs passed during the first term of Franklin D. Roosevelt — who, of course, became known by his three initials. They are widely used in the military and today's government bureaucracy. (AP)

Metro Speeds Up SmarTrip

Transit system to install devices to ease customer movement at fare gates

Metro is installing new equipment designed to improve SmarTrip card performance at fare gates and speed the movement of customers through the rail system.

Metro is putting plastic domes over each of the SmarTrip card readers on every fare gate, with about 1,400 of 1,700 installed so far. The installation is expected to be completed next week, Metro spokeswoman Angela Gates said. The cost of the project is about \$45,000, she said.

Metro implemented the most expansive fare increase in its history last summer, requiring its fare collection technol-



BILL O'LEARY/TWP

The domes Metro is adding to the card readers, above, will cost the transit agency about \$45,000.

ogy to handle more complex transactions. The changes meant it took longer for the circular SmarTrip targets to read the electronic fare cards and slowed down customers moving through the fare gates.

The solution had been for customers to hold their cards over the targets for a beat longer than they were accustomed to.

The domes are intended to allow the antenna of the SmarTrip card reader to be better positioned to communicate with the card, Gates said.

Specifically, it improves "the range at which the card will enter into communications with the target, which results in the unit's ability to read SmarTrip cards better and thus enable our customers to pass through the fare gates faster," she said.

Customer reaction to the devices was mixed, with some saying they helped, others saying they slowed down the card reading, and some not noticing the change.

ANN SCOTT TYSON (THE WASHINGTON POST)

METRO PULSE

It's meat-free week. What's your favorite veggie dish?



"The Nippon fried tofu at Café Asia. Taste it and you'll find out why it's delicious."

Kevin Koncak, COURT HOUSE

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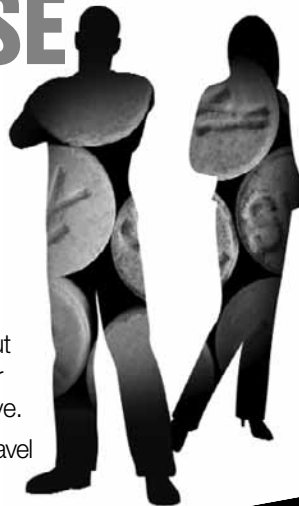
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One and Done for Va. Sen. Webb

Decision not to run leaves battleground seat ripe for GOP

Richmond, Va.

Sen. James Webb, D-Va., announced Wednesday that he would not run for a second term in 2012, ending an unusual Senate career and ensuring that the race to replace him will be among the most intense contests in the country.

In a statement issued by his office, Webb did not specifically explain why he had decided to retire. Webb's departure gives Republicans a prime opportunity to win back a seat in a critical political battleground state and could boost the GOP's chances of retaking the Senate.

Webb, elected in 2006 in a heated race against Sen. George Allen a Republican, has been an idiosyncratic figure on Capitol Hill — a serious thinker and legislator who never seemed to embrace the more polit-



LOIS RAIMONDO/TWP

Jim Webb's next step is not clear. He is a successful author of fiction and nonfiction.

"After much thought and consideration, I have decided to return to the private sector, where I have spent most of my professional life."

— VA. SEN. JIM WEBB, SPEAKING ON WHY HE WILL NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION IN 2012.

ical and personal aspects of the job such as raising money and attending ceremonial events. That visi-

ble discomfort and his persistently low fundraising numbers prompted some Virginia political observ-

ers to predict Webb would do exactly what he did Wednesday.

Allen has launched a bid to reclaim his old seat, and Jamie Radtke, former chairwoman of the Virginia Tea Party Patriots Federation, is also running for the post.

Allen has criticized Webb repeatedly in recent weeks for his positions on key issues, but he was more respectful of his former foe Wednesday.

"I respect Senator Webb's service to our country and the very personal decision that he and his family have made," Allen said in a statement released by his campaign. "I did not enter into this race to run against any one person, but to fight for the families of Virginia to improve their opportunities in life." BEN PERSHING AND ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

washingtonpost.com

Facing stiff competition from the GOP in 2012, Virginia. Democrats look to ex-governor and current DNC chair Tim Kaine to run for Webb's old seat.

In Brief

SILVER SPRING, MD.

Teacher Charged With Choking First-Graders



Burke

A Washington-area teacher has been charged with choking and hitting students during the school day. Greencastle Elementary School teacher Susan Burke was charged Tuesday with nine counts of second-degree assault. Nine of the 6- and 7-year-old students in her class reported that Burke choked them. Some said she kicked, punched, or scratched or tightly squeezed their arms. (AP)

ARLINGTON

Shake-Up at TBD.com

Allbritton Communications will reorganize its fledgling local news site, TBD.com, by naming a new boss for the operation and restoring the Newschannel 8 name to the cable TV station it rebranded as TBD TV last summer, according to people at the Arlington-based company. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

WASHINGTON

Book Festival Expands

The Library of Congress is expanding the National Book Festival to two days as the event enters its 11th year on the National Mall. This year's festival will be held the weekend of Sept. 24-25. (AP)

The Lotteries

Wednesday, Feb. 9

Maryland

Mid-day Pick 3 4-7-9
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.) 8-3-1
Mid-day Pick 4 0-0-6-6
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.) 5-3-4-2
Match 5 (Tues.) 14-22-25-27-33 (17)

District

Mid-day Lucky Numbers 9-3-2
Evening Lucky Numbers (Tues.) 5-8-5
Mid-day DC 4 0-8-1-1
Evening DC 4 (Tues.) 7-4-7-4
Mid-day D.C. Five 3-1-3-7-2
Evening D.C. Five (Tues.) 8-5-9-1-3

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3 4-2-5
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.) 0-8-5
Mid-day Pick 4 6-7-3-1
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.) 9-7-6-3
Mid-day Cash 5 8-9-20-30-33
Evening Cash 5 (Tues.) 2-4-13-17-25

Multi-State Games

Mega Millions (Tues.) 25,35,36,47,48 (18)
Mega Ball 2X

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Sports

In Brief



Penguins forward Matt Cooke was hit with a four-game penalty by the NHL.

PRO HOCKEY
Pens' Cooke Suspended

Penguins forward Matt Cooke has been hit with a four-game suspension by the NHL. The league made the announcement on Wednesday, a day after Cooke hit Columbus defenseman Fedor Tyutin from behind in a 4-1 loss. Tyutin was pummeled face-first into the boards. He quickly got back on his skates. (AP)

SOCCKER
Beckham Plays Good Samaritan in England

David Beckham stopped to help a stranded family whose car broke down on the way to school. Beckham pulled over during morning rush hour near a roundabout in the town of Ware in England. He assisted photographer Paul Long and his two children. (AP)

PRO FOOTBALL
NFL Sides Resume Talks

NFL and players union representatives met in Washington Wednesday to discuss a new collective bargaining agreement. It's the second session in five days, the previous negotiations taking place in Dallas on Saturday. Team owners opted out of the CBA in 2008, and the current contract expires March 3. (AP)

GOLF
Lt. Col. Tees off With Tiger

When the call came to the home of Lt. Col. Michael Rowells, his wife Molly assumed it was a joke. But on Wednesday, the American serviceman teed up alongside Tiger Woods at the Dubai Desert Classic pro-am. Rowells beat out 16,000 other amateur golfers in a draw before the tournament. (AP)

5 years after their Final 4 run, Patriots appear NCAA-bound

George Mason Hoops

George Mason is at it again, leading a mid-major charge against the NCAA's big boys.

The Patriots have won 10 in a row, have bumped their RPI into the high 20s and are receiving votes in The Associated Press Top 25 poll. They look good enough to make the NCAA tournament even if they don't win their conference, something that last happened in 2006, the year of their improbable run to the Final Four.

"Even when I go to my classes, my professors still bring up the Final Four," said junior Ryan Pearson, the Colonial Athletic Association's player of the week. "And I'm, like, 'I wasn't a part of that. I want to make my own history here.'"

6 of 12

The number of CAA teams that have RPIs in the top 100. The CAA this season is closing in on the basketball-proud ACC, which has eight of 12 squads in the top 100. (AP)

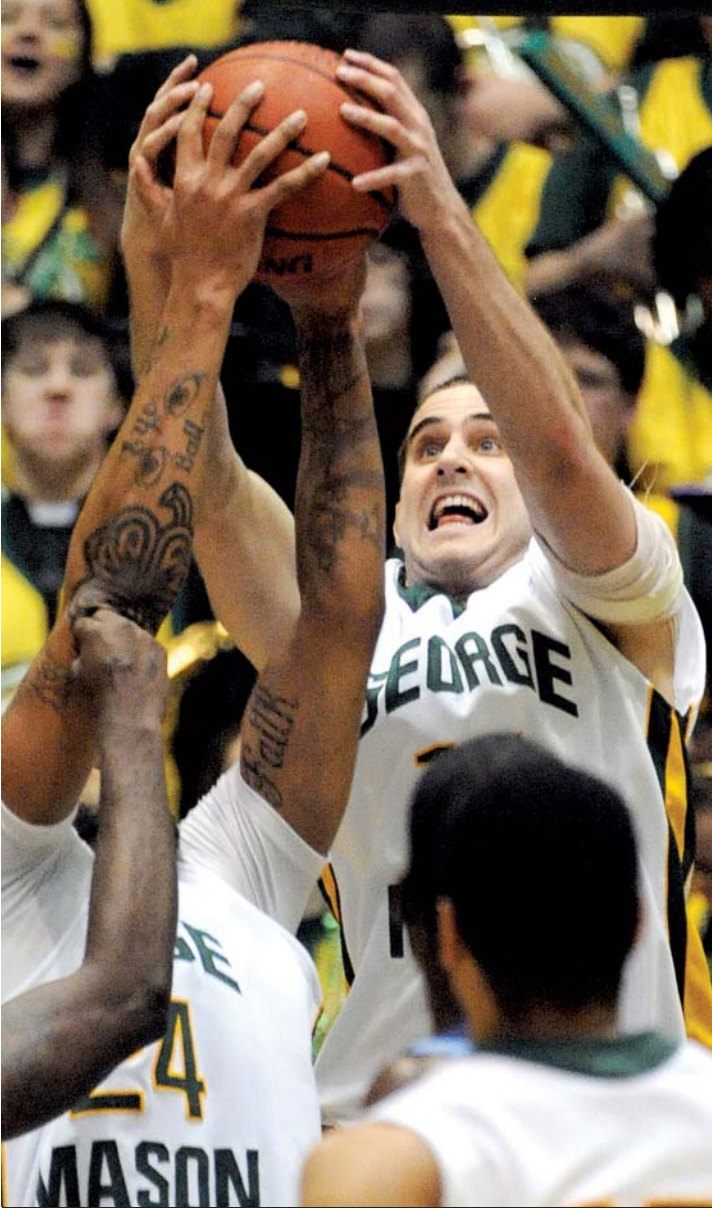
Most intriguingly, George Mason is at the crest of a CAA wave that could land three or more schools in the NCAAs for the first time in conference history. The CAA has been making the case for years that it deserves better than its usual one-bid status, and this year the computers say the conference has a good argument.

LITTLE BIG MEN

The Patriots, of course, were the subject of much debate when they were made an at-large selection five years ago, but they justified it by winning the East Regional in one of the best little-guy-makes-good stories of the last decade.

Except that George Mason isn't a little guy — it's the biggest university in Virginia by enrollment — and it now can no longer be picked on as a "commuter school," at least not officially.

HERE THEY GO AGAIN



TRACY A. WOODWARD/TWP

"You can't get into the top 30 or 40 teams in the country by somehow rigging your schedule. You have to win games. And I don't care what league you're in: Playing a conference opponent on the road is difficult."
— GEORGE MASON COACH JIM LARRANAGA, ON HOW TEAMS IN SMALL CONFERENCES CAN MUSCLE THEIR WAY INTO THE BIG DANCE OVER POWER CONFERENCE SQUADS.



Making Their Case

In a bit of unusual marketing, George Mason posted video on its athletic website (Gomason.com) in which a female bear educates a potential suitor — who's more familiar with another green and yellow team (the Green Bay Packers) — on the strengths of this year's George Mason squad, drawing comparisons to the 2006 Final Four team. (EXPRESS)

But the Patriots have been back to the NCAAs just once since the Final Four run, losing in the first round to Notre Dame in 2008. Last year's young team slumped its way to something called the CollegeInsider.com tournament, and last fall coach Jim Larranaga took the team on trip to Italy to get rid of cliques and get the players focusing more on defense. "We really got to bond as a team," senior guard Isaiah Tate said.

NUMBERS GAME

While the various RPIs might differ by a spot or two, all generally have George Mason and Old Dominion in the top 30. Virginia Commonwealth and Drexel are hovering between 50 and 60. It's not hard to picture a scenario of, say, VCU winning the conference tournament, with GMU and ODU both getting NCAA at-large bids.

Yet George Mason's list of victories is hardly daunting. The Patriots are 20-5, but their biggest out-of-conference wins came against Harvard and Duquesne. Old Dominion's biggest conquests are Xavier and Dayton, which leads to the question: Has the CAA figured out how to rig the system?

"That's a bunch of malarkey," said Jim Sukup, publisher of the Collegiate Basketball News RPI. "What it boils down to is that everything has to fall into place for you."

JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

Sports



RICHARD W. RODRIGUEZ/ST. LOUIS POST-DEMOCRAT

A Super Bowl ticket holder and a stadium official discuss the ticket fiasco Sunday.

NFL Fans File Suit Over Seat Fiasco

Dallas' Jones, league accused of fraud after flap at Super Bowl

Pro Football

Ticket-holding football fans who ended up with no seats or what they considered bad views of the Super Bowl have filed a class-action lawsuit against the NFL, the Dallas Cowboys and team owner Jerry Jones.

The federal lawsuit filed Tuesday in Dallas — just two days after the big game — alleges breach of contract, fraud and deceptive sales practices on behalf of people who ended up watching the game on TV at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, or had seats the lawsuit labeled “illegitimate.”

One plaintiff is a Steelers fan from Pennsylvania who was among the 400 with a ticket but no seat after 1,250 temporary seats were

Payback Plan

The NFL has said that the roughly 400 fans who bought tickets for the temporary seats but were forced to watch the game on TV monitors or from standing-room-only areas have two options. The first is a ticket to next year's Super Bowl and a cash payment of \$2,400, three times the face value of the ticket. The second is a ticket to any future Super Bowl, along with round-trip airfare and hotel accommodations. (AP)

deemed unsafe. The other is a Cowboys season ticket holder who claims many of Jones' biggest-spending fans were stuck in metal folding chairs without a view of the stadium's giant video board.

Los Angeles-based attorney Michael J. Avenatti said he expects the suit to cover about 1,000 people.

DANNY ROBBINS, SCHUYLER DIXON (AP)

TV Lineup

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS (7 P.M., ESPN AND ESPN2; 9 P.M., ESPN AND ESPN2; 11 P.M., ESPN2 AND FSN) St. John's shoots to score an upset win over Connecticut, and Florida State tips off against Georgia Tech; Minnesota hosts Illinois, and Vander-

bilt battles Alabama; then Gonzaga visits Loyola Marymount, and USC and Oregon State square off. **PRO HOOPS (8 P.M., 10:30 P.M., TNT)** The Boston Celtics host their archrival, the Los Angeles Lakers, in a rematch of last year's NBA Finals.

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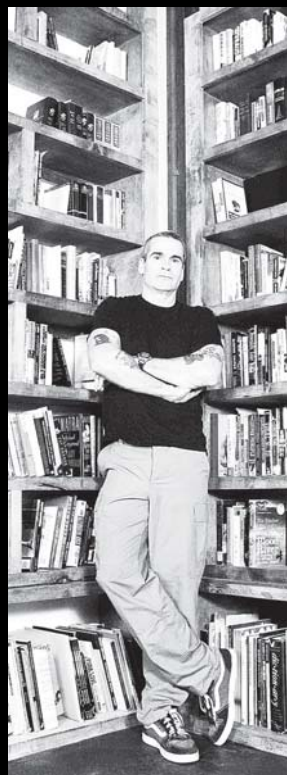
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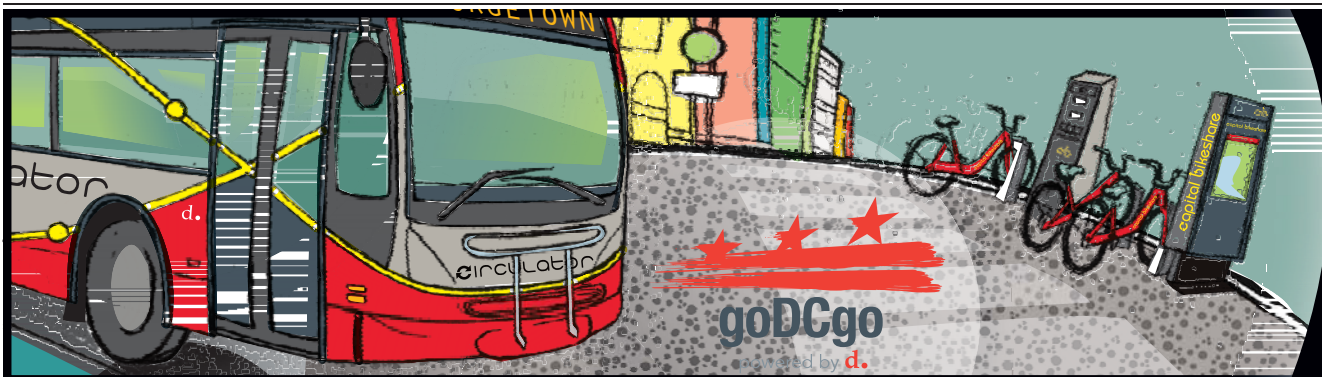
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on the spot

THE STREETS OF ALEXANDRIA

may seem straight out of a Norman Rockwell painting, but they are killing grounds in the mind of thriller writer Mary Burton. Her two latest novels, “Merciless” and “Senseless” (each \$7, Zebra Books), follow detectives as they hunt down murderous psychopaths in Old Town. Burton wrote eight books of historical fiction before turning her pen on present-day Alexandria, where she’s set several of her five pulp thrillers. Express spoke to Burton about the dark corners of the Virginia suburbs.

Did you change any details about Alexandria for your newest books?

The murder rate goes up a couple hundred percent. It’s going to keep

rising in the next book. I did the same to the Richmond area in my first three [thriller] novels [“Dying Scream,” “Dead Ringer, and “I’m Watching You”].

What’s the scariest place in Alexandria?

Anyplace can be dangerous. You always have to have your eyes and ears open. If you live in a nice neighborhood and you think there’s a veil of safety around you, there’s not. In my stories, I always try to bring danger into those seemingly safe places.

What’s your advice on how to avoid serial killers?

Don’t talk on your phone at night, because you’ll have a false impres-



COURTESY KENSINGTON BOOKS

Mary Burton

AUTHOR, “MERCILESS” AND “SENSELESS”

“In my stories, I always try to bring danger into those seemingly safe places.”

sion of connectedness and security. Carry your keys in your hand. It’s all basic stuff, but people in suburbia don’t worry about it as much.

In “Merciless,” one of the killers makes jewelry out of human bones. If you bought a piece, what would you choose?

None of them are on my wish list for Valentine’s Day. I’m amazed people actually make that stuff — you can go on the Internet to buy them.

You’re also into cooking. What do you make to cure writer’s block?

I’ve worked out a lot of plot twists while baking. You can tell how my book is going by the number of cupcakes on the counter. **NEVIN MARTELL**



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The Irish Heart of 'Inishmaan'

Director Garry Hynes puts Druid Theatre Company on the map

Theater Q&A

There are few reminders of an Irish family making good in the U.S. as grandiose as the Kennedy Center. So it's fitting that "The Cripple of Inishmaan," Martin McDonagh's play about Irish peasants starstruck by a Hollywood director's nearby film set, is at the Kennedy Center through this weekend, courtesy of Ireland's Druid Theatre Company. Director Garry Hynes spoke with

Express about Irish theater, at home and abroad.

Why do you think there's such a fascination in America with Ireland and Irish literature?

I think there's a huge diaspora. And of course, a great part of that diaspora is in America. It's also the quality of our writing. Plays by people like Martin McDonagh and Brian Friel attract huge audiences not because they're Irish, but because they're brilliant plays.

In 1998, you were the first woman to win a Tony Award, for directing "The Beauty Queen of Leenane."

On the one hand, it's a great honor.



NICK BURCHILL

"The Cripple of Inishmaan," directed by Garry Hynes, runs through Saturday.

On the other hand, it feels as strange to say it now as it did when I was first nominated. People said, "If you should actually win, you would be the first woman." And I thought it had to be a mistake. Of course, about seven minutes after I won, Julie Taymor won a Tony Award for directing "The Lion King." [Taymor won for musical direction, Hynes in the play category.] So, no women at all for 50 years and then two in seven minutes.

Do women have much of a presence in the Irish theater community as directors or writers? I think women are in much the

"Plays by Martin McDonagh and Brian Friel attract huge audiences not because they're Irish, but because they're brilliant plays."

same place in the Irish theater as they are everywhere else. Certainly, we have wonderful Irish writers, and we have quite a number of Irish women directors. But there could be more, and there should be more. **FIONA ZUBLIN (EXPRESS)**

● **Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; through Sat., \$25-\$69; 202-467-4600, Kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom)**

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STATE OF ALERT

Hometown hero Henry Rollins looks back at 50 years of writing, ranting and rocking

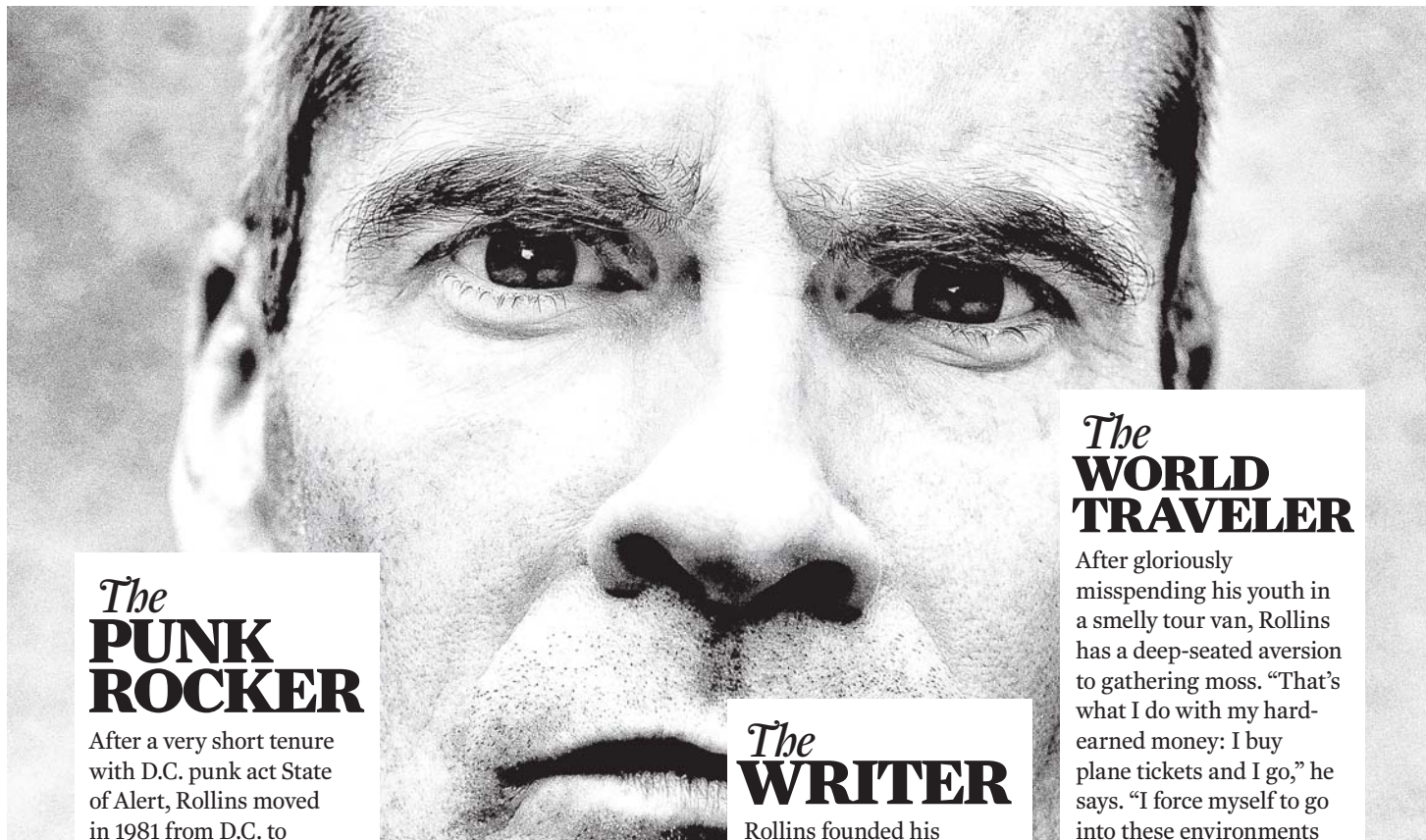
Turning 50 is a big deal. But what do you get the punk icon who's done everything? The decades have made hometown hero Henry Rollins more than the sum of his many tattoos: Years after fronting the legendary band Black Flag, he's published a slew of books, hit the big screen in more than 15 films and, most recently, turned into a TV personality — appearing in the “National Geographic Explorer” special “Born to Rage” this past December and in a “Snake Underworld” episode of “Nat Geo Wild” set to air early this year.

“All of these things allow me to be this jagged, schizophrenic mosaic that I am,” he says.

And on Sunday, Rollins will get a special birthday wish: celebrating his 50th before an audience at National Geographic Live!, “waxing psychotic” about adventures past and future.

Ahead of his appearance Sunday, Express pressed Rollins about his long and varied career. **STEPHEN M. DEUSNER**

● *National Geographic Live!, 1600 M St. NW; Sun., 7 & 9:30 p.m., \$35; 202-857-7700. (Farragut North)*



The **PUNK ROCKER**

After a very short tenure with D.C. punk act State of Alert, Rollins moved in 1981 from D.C. to Los Angeles, where he joined hardcore band Black Flag as the group's new front man. Over five years and countless perilous live shows, he developed a reputation as a brutally blunt lyricist and aggressive performer, prowling the stage in nothing but a pair of loose black shorts that accentuated his muscular physique and extensive tattoos.

Today, Rollins has all but retired from music. “I don't even think about it anymore,” he says. “If we can say that music is a bell, I rang it really hard, very frequently, and with a great sense of urgency — to the point of breaking it. But I didn't ring it with any great deal of distinction or finesse. So, there's really nothing more for me to do in music but be a hackneyed character.”

The **ACTOR**

In the 1990s, Rollins landed bit parts in a string of high-profile films, including Michael Mann's “Heat,” David Lynch's “Lost Highway” and, for some reason, the Michael Keaton kiddie flick “Jack Frost.” In recent years, Rollins has won meatier roles on television, including a stint as an incredibly threatening neo-Nazi on FX's “Sons of Anarchy.”

“It's pretty obvious that I'm not a neo-Nazi, but I am when I'm on that show,” he says. “It's an interesting intellectual process to deal with, because the only way to put that part over is to really believe in it at that moment.”

The **WRITER**

Rollins founded his 2.13.61 publishing imprint in 1984 to put his journals and spoken-word performances in book form. His prose — including the gut-wrenchingly beautiful “See a Grown Man Cry/Now Watch Him Die,” which dealt with the murder of his best friend in 1991 — is as bare and provocative as his music.

More recently, Rollins has gone the journalist route, penning a current events column for Vanity Fair and covering music for L.A. Weekly.

“That allows me to do what a lot of people do in this country: Be a pundit,” Rollins says with a laugh. “I supply useless content to the already overburdened Internet. I don't care if it needs more or not — I'm giving it more.”

The **WORLD TRAVELER**

After gloriously misspending his youth in a smelly tour van, Rollins has a deep-seated aversion to gathering moss. “That's what I do with my hard-earned money: I buy plane tickets and I go,” he says. “I force myself to go into these environments that are either semi-threatening or relatively untraveled. I know it's going to be interesting and I'm going to learn something.”

A recent trip took him to Pyongyang, North Korea — a vacation that was treacherous but revelatory. “I wondered if I knew more about North Korea than the tour guide, because he can't read anything critical of the country,” he says. “With no hint of irony, these guys tell you how great Kim Il Sun was and how great Kim Jong Il is.”

One of Rollins' favorite destinations remains Africa, which he visits every chance he gets. “Once you connect with that continent — and I've been pretty far and wide — it gets in your blood. When I come back from Africa, I go into withdrawals. I miss it so badly.”

A Capitol Of the Mind

Suzannah Vaughan's sculptures of D.C. landmarks capture an imagined identity

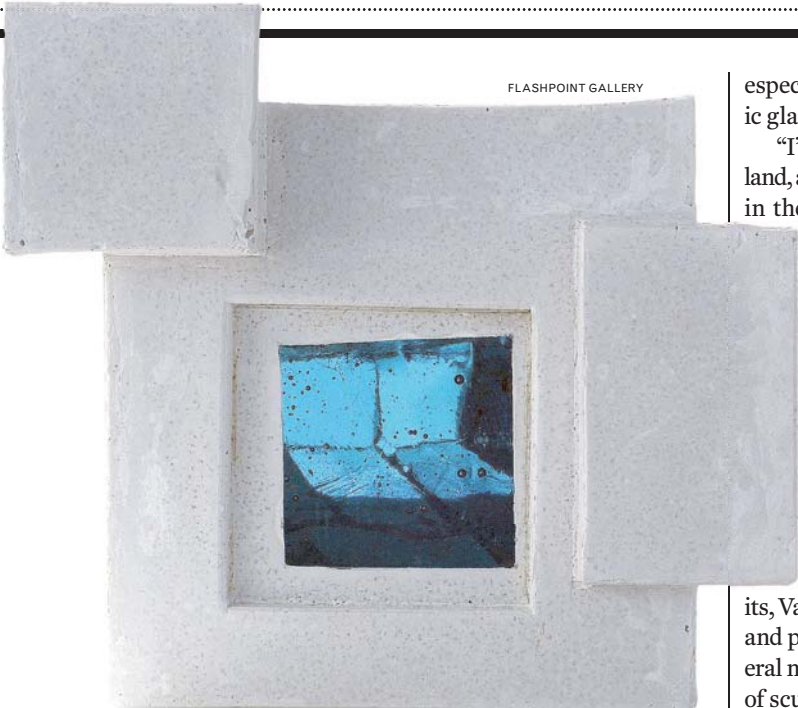
Gallery

How do non-native Washingtonians imagine the capital? Do monuments loom larger than life? Does the city shine with marble buildings and architectural marvels?

The space between the imagined and the real is the subject of Suzannah Vaughan's exhibit "Tracing Form" at the Flashpoint Gallery. Vaughan, an Irish artist and member of Flashpoint's Irish organization-in-residence, Solas Nua, created all the pieces in the show before she ever set foot in D.C.

The miniature sculptures in the gallery are blockish white stone structures with colored glass "windows" lit naturally or with LEDs to create the illusion of space. Each work depicts a Washington landmark — and each was created using only Internet references and Vaughan's imagination.

Vaughan says she took inspiration for "Tracing Form" from "Alpine Architecture," Bruno Taut's seminal 1917 work filled with "utopian buildings that could never exist." She researched D.C.'s landscape before making pieces based on "what I imagined Washington to be like — its potential and possibility. When a building is done, it's almost like a full stop. My work is more like a suggestion of what it could be" if construction never ended, she says.



For "Tracing Form," Suzannah Vaughan sculpted D.C. landmarks she'd not yet seen.

"When a building is done, it's almost a full stop. My work is more like a suggestion of what it could be."

Her sculptures capture the essence of certain sites — the curves of the Hirshhorn Museum, the classical elegance of the Lincoln Memorial — while they are also completely original creations. Vaughan also incorporates her own biography into her work,

especially in her choice of oceanic glass colors.

"I'm from the west coast of Ireland, and I drew on the tones of light in the sky there," Vaughan says.

"When I moved to Dublin, I missed that light and sense of space — the dramatic blues and hues of grey. The architecture [in Washington] suited it so well."

Vaughan is not finished interpreting the city; while living here as a Flashpoint artist-in-residence, she plans to make work based on the "real" D.C. Through site visits, Vaughan will "make drawings and paper models — more ephemeral materials that are the opposite of sculpture."

"I'm interested in making two pieces that are the opposite of each other," Vaughan says. "First, out of imagined space, then by working out of my actual experience."

JESSICA ROAKE

● *Flashpoint Gallery, 916 G St. NW; through Feb. 12, free; 202-315-1305, Flashpointdc.org. (Gallery Place)*

Heads Up



COURTESY THEARC DC

WHO COST half a million bucks, can answer more than 75 questions and likes to party? Why, it's the animatronic Frederick Douglass at THEARC DC. Catch him in action Saturday, in celebration of Douglass' birthday. "He is someone who was very social," says Executive Director Edmund Fleet. Douglass worked with abolitionist and women's groups, so "I'm sure there was a social aspect to the groups he would interface with."

Cloak-and-Dagger History

Douglas Waller's new book digs up the dirt on spying's glory days

Books

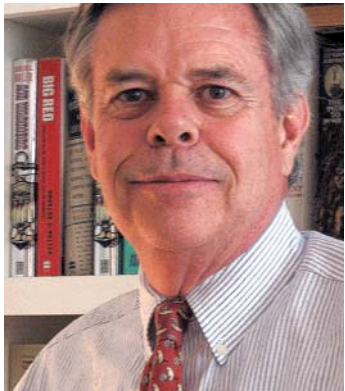
Columnists doubling as covert spies! Late-night embassy break-ins in Dupont! Scenes from the next Clooney blockbuster? No: They're the origins of the Central Intelligence Agency. Such strategies were also favored by "Wild Bill," or William Joseph Donovan, leader of the Office of Strategic Services (the precursor to the CIA), during World War II. Donovan, known as the father of American intelligence, is the subject of Douglas Waller's biography "Wild Bill Donovan" (\$30, Free Press).

The methods seem straight out of a Bourne film, but were appro-

priate for an era Waller calls "the glory days" of espionage. "Agents infiltrating enemy lines, commandos carrying out discrete sabotage operations — any idea was fair game," Waller says.

Donovan had a distinct brand of leadership. Court- ing the press for publicity, he promoted his agency with gusto, pulling operatives from every imaginable profession. "He wanted what he called the 'disciplined daring': playwrights, college presidents, captains of industry," Waller says.

Despite his visionary tactics, Donovan was passed over when the time came to select a director of the newly formed CIA. "People worshipped him or despised him. Some people thought he was worse



COLBY COOPER

Douglas Waller's "Wild Bill Donovan" looks at WWII-era American espionage.

than Adolf Hitler," says Waller. "But his operatives thought he walked on water."

The controversial figure remains relevant today. "I've said ... that the Pentagon could use a 'Wild Bill' Donovan — just not two of them," says Waller.

Since 9/11, analysts have toyed with the idea of returning to a creative approach to espionage. Does the War on Terror need a nimble body like the OSS working alongside the CIA?

Waller has mixed feelings. "It'd be like bringing back the cavalry charge," he says. "But then again, you have CIA special ops officers on horseback in Afghanistan today."

Waller thinks Donovan would be pleased with the CIA's growth, but disappointed by the Wikileaks security breaches: "There's the saying that the intelligence community was built by a drunken architect. Donovan would think it hasn't sobered up yet." KATHERINE BOYLE (EXPRESS)

● *Politics and Prose; 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; Sun., 5 p.m., free; 202-364-1919; Politics-prose.com. (Van Ness)*



Anxiety-producing name aside, D.C. punk band Coke Bust packs local house shows and alternative performance venues.

It's the Real Thing

Coke Bust takes punk inspiration from a bygone D.C. scene

Music

In Washington, D.C., calling your band Coke Bust is going to conjure one thing: a certain politician, being “set up” in a certain Vista Hotel.

But while Coke Bust's speedy punk recalls the Dischord Records bands that reigned over D.C.'s rock scene in Marion Barry's '80s heyday, the connection ends there.

“The band [name] was not inspired by Marion Barry,” says vocalist Nicktape (just Nicktape). “Our deadbeat friend, Rich, suggested it out of the blue, and it stuck.”

The kids in Coke Bust — Nick-

tape, guitarist Jeremy Evans, bassist Jubert and drummer Chris Moore — were in diapers when Minor Threat was ruling the Wilson Center. But the band is glad to be a torchbearer of D.C.'s old-school scene.

“I feel a connection to Dischord in the sense that we share the DIY ethic,” says Moore. “I have infinite respect for it.”

On Friday night, Coke Bust debuts its new EP, “Degradation,” with a show at Hole in the Sky, one of the city's newest DIY venues. The Eckington space is an incubator for emerging local music, visual arts and performance, and has been putting on low-key shows of local and touring bands since last year.

Nicktape says that's a good barometer of the health of D.C.'s indie music scene.

“It's awesome. The problems that have traditionally existed are low turnouts and a lack of venues,” he says. “And more kids have been coming out.”

Playing a semi-organized show is a step up for Coke Bust, which has made a name for itself on D.C.'s house-show circuit.

“Any house show is always fun for me,” says Nicktape. “The smaller the space, the more cramped, the crazier the atmosphere, and the fewer rules the better. We played a Halloween show a few years ago with kids throwing stolen pumpkins at us and each other. Pure mayhem. That was the best.”

CHRISTOPHER PORTER

● *Hole in the Sky*, 2110 5th St. NE; Fri., with *Direct Control*, *Vaccine*, *Rations*, *Deep Sleep*; 7 p.m., \$7; Holeintheskydc.tumblr.com.

Laptop Pop, Take Me Away

Baths warms up the beat head landscape on the new ‘Cerulean’

Music

At age 21, Will Wiesenfeld is already a veteran musician and producer, with more than 20 full-length albums to his name. Or, more accurately, to all his names: The classically trained California native has been recording since he was 14 under monikers including Post-Foetus and Geotic.

It was as Baths that Wiesenfeld wrote and recorded 2010's “Cerulean,” a laptop-pop collection of chomping beats, exuberant melodies and elaborate soundscapes that landed on numerous year-end lists and earned him a growing

following. “It was intended very much to be a first album,” he says. “I built it with that idea in mind and thought it would be my first album to make an impression on the public, to get a wider release than just me giving it to all my friends.”

Though Wiesenfeld says he's settled on Baths as a permanent musical identity, his other projects keep him on a rigorous creative regimen. He recorded the recent Geotic album “Mend” in five days over a



Will Wiesenfeld, who performs as Baths, juggles several musical names.

holiday break, then released it as a free download. “I’m thinking about music all the time,” he says — even producing new work on the road. “All of a sudden, I have songs I don’t even remember recording.”

Wiesenfeld says he already has his next Baths album mapped out, and that it will be darker than the sunny sound of “Cerulean.”

If it seems that making music borders on an obsession for Wiesenfeld, at least it's a habit that works to the benefit of his art.

“This is not something that I fell into by accident by any means,” he says. “It's what I've wanted to do since the sixth or seventh grade. I plan on making music for my entire life.”

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER

● *Rock and Roll Hotel*, 1353 H St. NE; Fri., 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$12; 202-388-7625, Rockandrollhoteldc.com.

Amazing Grace



DIANA VISHNEVA performs as the title character in the Mariinsky Ballet's classic ballet “Giselle,” which is at the Kennedy Center through Sunday.

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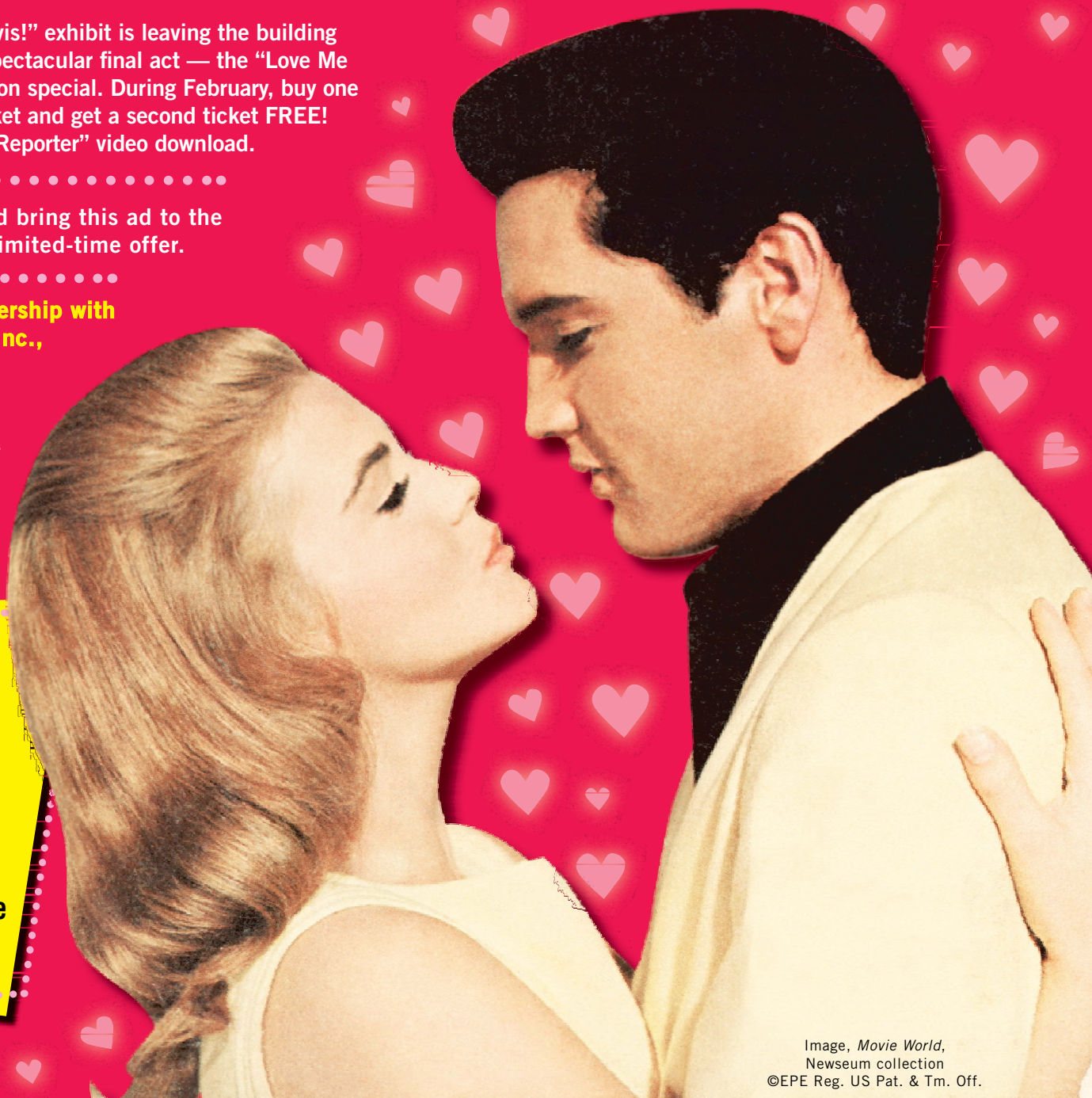
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An 'Instrument' of Truth

Fugazi's Ian MacKaye looks back on a film that chronicles the early days of the band

Film Q&A

In 1987, before the now-legendary D.C. punk band Fugazi had even played its first show, filmmaker Jem Cohen was already rolling tape at the band's Washington rehearsal space. Cohen, who met vocalist Ian MacKaye when they were Washington high school students, shot the band for nearly 10 years. The result was the 1998 film "Instrument," a visual document of the group's career and one of several Cohen films screening as part of the "Jem Cohen: Curious Visions" series opening Saturday at the National Gallery of Art.

Members of Fugazi will introduce "Instrument" when it screens Feb. 27. Ahead of that appearance, Express reached MacKaye at the Dischord offices to discuss the film's meaning more than a decade on.



Ian MacKaye, left, and Fugazi will introduce "Instrument," part of "Jem Cohen: Curious Visions" at the National Gallery of Art.

"Life doesn't have a narrative arc. It's not a documentary, but it's true. It's not a concert film, but there's music."

"Instrument" doesn't play like a typical rock documentary. What did you and Jem Cohen intend this film to be?

Modern-day documentaries are essentially fiction; they have narrative arcs. Life doesn't have a nar-

rative arc, in my opinion. It's not a documentary, but it's true. It's not a narrative, but there's a story. It's not a concert film, but there's music.

The film isn't just about Fugazi, but also the culture that grew up around the band.

We decided that we wanted to include the audience in the film because we felt Fugazi wouldn't exist without our audience. Jem was going out with a video camera before and after our shows and interviewing people. We have dozens and dozens of interviews.

Have you revisited the movie?

Occasionally, I look at it. I look at it and think, "Jem is so good, so talented." I don't know any other movie about people in a band that's anything like it. But Fugazi, we're a weird bunch of people. Music kicks our ass, and we intend to return that favor.

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER

● *National Gallery of Art, Fourth Street and Constitution Avenue NW; series starts Sat., "Instrument" screens Feb. 27, 5 p.m., free; 202-842-6799. (Smithsonian)*

take five



"The Roommate" delivers valuable life lessons, such as "Try to live alone."

1 The Roommate

In its fascination with girl-on-girl action, "The Roommate" plays like the ultimate indulgence of leering Hollywood executives, eager to ogle pulchritudinous college girls and call it work.

2 Sanctum

The movie is most convincing when the characters have air tubes in their mouths, and it's always cause for alarm when the adventurers stop swimming to talk out some conflict.

3 No Strings Attached

Thanks to the immense likability of the movie's stars (Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher), "No Strings Attached" is an often entertaining look at two people giving their relationship the hooking-up-like-they're-in-college try.

4 The King's Speech

There's nothing not to love about Tom Hooper's historical drama, which tells the story of how Britain's King George VI (Colin Firth) overcame a debilitating stutter and went on to lead the country through World War II.

5 The Green Hornet

There was a time when movies about superheroes were full of angst. Then this punk, the Green Hornet, shows up. His movie's fun. It's light-hearted. It's full of jokes. Heroes don't tell jokes. The Riddler tells jokes.

FILM REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST. FOR MORE CAPSULES AND REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS SEE GOINGOUTGUIDE.COM/MOVIES.

Keep It Short & Sweet

indies & arties

It's kind of a dead time at the movies right now, with all the Oscar bait having been gnawed to the bone and summer blockbusters yet to arrive. Unless, of course, you're willing to shorten your attention span, skip the features and check out the E Street Cinema's screening of Oscar-nominated shorts. (As a nerdy bonus, this trip will boost your chances of winning the office Oscar pool.)

There are 10 films total; five in each category. The live-action cat-

egory includes "The Confession," a film about a 9-year-old British boy dreading his first confession; "God of Love," in which a darts champion receives a box of darts that stir up the passions of those punctured; "The Crush," in which a second-grader challenges his beloved teacher's boyfriend to a duel to the death; and "Wish 143," about an ailing 15-year-old boy who, in a move the Make a Wish Foundation probably wouldn't make, is granted an hour alone with a naked woman.

But the animated shorts on offer look to be the most creative: This year, nominees range from Pixar's adorable "Day & Night" to



Luke Matheny, left, and Christopher Hirsh in the short film "God of Love."

"Let's Pollute," a satire about how trashing Earth's environment is awesome. There's also "The Grufalo," about a mouse who creates a terrifying creature to scare off predators; "The Lost Thing," a story of a kid who finds a mysterious animal who doesn't fit in anywhere; and "Madagascar, Carnet de Voyage," a travelogue about Malagasy culture and society. (Parents, take note: These animated films are not necessarily suitable for kids, as one family who fled the expletive-laden "Logorama" three minutes into last year's screening discovered.)

KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY (EXPRESS)

● *E Street Cinema, 555 11th St. NW; see Landmarktheaters.com for showtimes, \$7.50-\$10; 202-452-7672. (Metro Center)*



1 Love Stinks

We elevate strange behavior to the realm of the romantic: teenagers killing themselves over a two-day whirlwind love affair, scruffy dudes hoisting boom boxes outside your window, vampires staring at you while you sleep. But Preston Sturges' "The Palm Beach Story" might be the most puzzling one of all: It's about a man trying to win back his wife (Claudette Colbert, above) after she leaves him because they're poor and she thinks she can do him more good if she lands a wealthy husband. Ain't love grand? That should be fun to work out in couples therapy. → *AFI Silver, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; Thu., 9:10 p.m.; 301-495-6720, Afi.com/silver. (Silver Spring)*

4

You're the Inspiration

Yeah, you could go to dinner and ice skating on Valentine's Day. You know who else does that? Everyone. Much more original is Del Ray Artisans' latest exhibition, "Love Letters," featuring pieces by local artists accompanied by a love letter to the person who inspired the work. A word of caution: If you take your significant other here, he or she may expect you to create muse-inspired paintings or poems. No pressure. → *Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria; through Feb. 27, free; 703-838-4827, Thedelrayartisans.org.*

2 House of Wax

The members of the David Wax Museum may look like Brooklyn Barbie and Ken, but their music, a Mexican-folk hybrid that encourages a lot of audience participation, is anything but plastic. Odd instruments, close harmonies and hooky musical phrases abound.



→ *Sixth and I Historic Synagogue, 600 I St. NW; Sat., 8 p.m., \$12, \$10 in advance; 877-435-9849, Sixthandi.org. (Gallery Place)*

3 Fine Art

We see the connection between Valentine's Day and a scavenger hunt through the nudes in the National Gallery's collection. We don't entirely approve, because we're not 14-year-old boys, but we see the connection. Watson Adventures is holding two Valentine's Day weekend scavenger hunts that will send participants running to examine various depictions of naked people. Already have a police record? Fear not: You will not be asked to scavenge any actual objets d'art. → *National Gallery of Art, Constitution Avenue at 6th Street NW; Sat. and Sun., 2 p.m., \$25; 866-811-4111, Watsonadventures.com. (Smithsonian)*

top

stops
WEEKEND

5



Bird Is The Word

Taffety Punk specializes in brave, highly physical, off-the-wall productions that are difficult to explain in a few sentences. For "Owl Moon," we can say only that it's about depression and neuroses and love and a talking bird. And a man face-down and bloody in the snow. Which is a long way of saying that you have to see it to get it. → *Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, 545 7th St. SE; through Feb. 26, \$10; 800-838-3006, Taffetypunk.com. (Eastern Market)*

▶ sound

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THURSDAY

- 9:30 Club:** Morcheeba, Lance Herbstrong, \$30.
- Birchmere:** War, \$49.50.
- Blues Alley:** Soul Cycle, \$18.
- Fur:** Pendulum (DJ set), \$15 in advance.
- Iota:** The Deadmen, John Bustine, \$12.
- Jammin' Java:** Speidel, Goodrich, Goggin and Lille, \$25.
- Kennedy Center/Concert Hall:** National Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m., 8 p.m., \$20-\$85.
- Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage:** Ted Garber, 6 p.m., free.
- Kennedy Center/Terrace Theater:** Bass-baritone Mark Glanville and pianist Alexander Knapp, 7:30 p.m., \$38.
- Music Center at Strathmore:** Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., \$28-\$88.
- Rams Head Tavern:** Little River Band, \$45.
- Red Palace:** GW Law Revue Bands featuring Motion to Quash and Attractive Nuisance, \$8.
- Rock & Roll Hotel:** Biffy Clyro, Moving Mountains, Solar Powered Sun Destroyer, \$12.
- Twins Jazz:** Sanga Equation with vocalist Lena Seikaly, \$10.
- U Street Music Hall:** The Twelves, AutoRock, Mr. Bonkerz, \$10.
- Velvet Lounge:** Lights Resolve, \$8.

FRIDAY

- 9:30 Club:** Lotus, Daedelus, \$20.
- Birchmere:** Lizz Wright, \$35.
- Black Cat:** Violet Says 5, the Five One, \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.
- Blues Alley:** Jerry "The Iceman" Butler, Fri.-Sat. \$43, Mon. \$92.
- Bohemian Caverns:** Freddie Redd and the Butch Warren Quintet, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.
- DAR Constitution Hall:** Cameo, Sugarfoot's Ohio Players, Con Funk Shun, the Bar-Kays, Dazz Band, 8 p.m., \$45-\$55.
- DC9:** DJ Marc-Alan Gray, \$7.
- Iota:** Honor by August, Simplified, Red Wanting Blue, \$12.
- Jammin' Java:** Natalie York, Chelsea Lee, 7 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door; Kid Architect, Attractions, Poly-Opto, 10 p.m., \$10-\$12.

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Jaxx: Ill Nino, ANew Revolution, Fashion Bomb, EkoTren, To the Fight, \$16 in advance, \$19 at the door.

Rams Head Tavern: Johnny Winter, Damon Fowler, \$45.

Rock & Roll Hotel: Ratt Moze, Chris Nitti, Phillip Goyette, Deep Sang, Meistro, 9:30 p.m., free; Baths, Braids, Blackbird Blackbird, \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

State Theatre: Misstallica, Disciples of Sabbath, \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Twins Jazz: Rolando Matias and AfroRican Ensemble, \$15.

U Street Music Hall: Azari & Ill, Solomon Sanchez, Simon & Ross, \$10, free before 11 p.m. for ages 21 and older.

Velvet Lounge: The Courtesans, Red Sammy, \$8.

SATURDAY

Birchmere: David Bromberg Big Band, \$45.

Black Cat: "Homo/Sonic," 9:30 p.m., \$10; DJ Beta-G, 9:30 p.m., \$7.

Black Rock Center for the Arts: Chuck Redd, 8 p.m., \$25-\$30.

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center: New York Festival of Song, 8 p.m., \$42.

Constitution Hall: Trey Songz, 7 p.m., \$55-\$75.

DC9: "Peach Pit," \$5.

Iota: Honor by August, Red Wanting Blue, Darlingside, \$12.

Jammin' Java: SteveSongs, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 & 2:30 p.m., \$15. The Civil Wars, Lucy Schwartz, 7 p.m., \$12; the Resistance, the Influence, Cerca Trova, 10 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door.

Jaxx: Dying Fetus, Resurgency, Spellborne, Serial Audiophile, Anarch, [Expletive] U All, \$13-\$15.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage:

Reverb, 6 p.m., free.

Music Center at Strathmore: National Philharmonic, 3 & 8 p.m., \$32-\$79.

Red Palace: The Postelles, Snowmine, Dinosaur Bones, \$10-\$12

Rock & Roll Hotel: Wild Nothing, Abe Vigoda, Deleted Scenes, \$10-\$12.

U Street Music Hall: Nouveau Riche, \$10.

Velvet Lounge: Time Travels, Gifts, \$8.

SUNDAY

Birchmere: The Church, \$35.

Black Cat: The Silver Liners, We Were Pirates, Time Travel, \$8.

Bohemian Caverns: Heidi Martin, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., \$25-\$55.

Galaxy Hut: Fight the Bear, Matt Boerum, \$5.

Jammin' Java: "All You Need Is Love 2," \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door.

Kennedy Center/Concert Hall: NSO Young Soloist Competition High School Division Finals, 6 p.m., free.

Rams Head Tavern: The Association, \$45.

Rock & Roll Hotel: Emilie Autumn, \$15.

Twins Jazz: Brian Robertson, \$10.

U Street Music Hall: Black Milk, SmCity, Gods'illa, X.O., \$20.



Addison/Ripley: Dickson Carroll, whimsical new works and sculptures by the Yale-trained architect, through March 5. 1670 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-338-5180, Addisonripleyfineart.com.

Alliance Francaise: "Owen Franken: A

Photography Retrospective," an exhibit of the work of photographer Owen Franken, who has traveled the world for the last 30 years and has had his work featured in the New York Times, Time, National Geographic and other publications, through March 2. 2142 Wyoming Ave. NW; 202-234-7911, Francdc.org.

American Painting: "Parade of Roses," works by Chad Alan, Bernard Dellario, Andrei Kushnir, Barbara Nuss, Carol Spils and Michele Martin Taylor, through Feb. 19. 5118 MacArthur Blvd. NW; 202-244-3244.

American University/Katzen Arts

Center: "Dafna Kaffeman: What Could Be Sweeter Than Going to Paradise?," through March 13. "Julie Linowes: STAIN," video installations through March 13. "Linn Meyers: A Very Particular Moment," the artist covers the walls with hand-drawn lines to create a meditative space, through March 13. "Nicole Cohen: Driving in Circles" and "Marisa Baumgartner: Grande Avenues," both exhibits focus on Washington's traffic circles, through March 13. "The Dark and Humorous Mind of Heather Wilcoxon," fifty absurdist images from the artist that deal with the troubles of modern society, through March 13. Katzen Arts Center, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-885-1300, American.edu/katzen.

Arlington Arts Center: "New Blood," works by nine new artists added to the center's residency program, through April 3. "On the Road," work by artists who prefer to create their work outside of the studio, through April 2. 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-248-6800, Arlingtonartscenter.org.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: "Shahnama: 1000 Years of the Persian Book

Continued on page E12

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→ **BLACK CAT:** 1811 14TH ST. NW; 202-667-4490, BLACKCATDC.COM.

→ **BLUES ALLEY:** 1073 WISCONSIN AVE. NW (REAR); 202-337-4141, BLUESALLEY.COM.

→ **COMET PING PONG:** 5037 CONNECTICUT AVE. NW; 202-364-0404, COMETPINGPONG.COM.

→ **IOTA CLUB & CAFE:** 2832 WILSON BLVD., ARLINGTON; 703-522-8340, IOTACLUBANDCAFE.COM.

→ **JAMMIN' JAVA:** 227 MAPLE AVE. E., VIENNA, VA.; 703-255-1566, JAMMINJAVA.COM.

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Continued from page E11

of Kings," illustrations from the Shah-nama, which tells the story of Iran up until the conquest of Islam, and paintings it has inspired, through April 17. "Perspectives: Hai Bo," through Feb. 27. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000, Asia.si.edu.

Art Museum of the Americas:
"Wrestling With the Image: Caribbean Interventions," a multimedia showcase

of works by artists from 12 Caribbean countries explores the changing realities of the region by investigating popular culture, gender, history and tourism. An opening reception is Friday at 6:30 p.m., through March 10. 201 18th St. NW; 202-458-6016, Museum.oas.org.

LAST CHANCE Art Whino: "Biomorphic," photo collages by Gigi Bio that depict life in New York, through Feb. 16. 122 Waterfront St., National Harbor; 301-

567-8210, Artwhino.com.

Athenaeum: "John M. Adams/Finding Zero," paintings by the artist, through Feb. 27. 201 Prince St., Alexandria; 703-548-0035, Nvfaa.org.

Capitol Hill Arts Workshop: "Owl Moon," Taffety Punk Theatre Company presents Liz Maestri's play about love, body bags and a talking owl, through Feb. 26, 8 p.m. 545 Seventh St. SE; 202-547-6839, Chaw.org.

Carroll Square Gallery: "Open Source," works by the students and faculty at the George Mason University's School of Art, opening Fri., through March 25. 975 F St. NW; 202-624-8643.

Conner Contemporary Art: Cordy Ryman and Brandon Morse, Ryman's new sculpture pieces and Morse's latest video works, opening Sat., through March 5. 1358-60 Florida Ave. NE; 202-588-8750, Connercontemporary.com.

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Corcoran Gallery of Art: "Washington Color and Light," selections from the museum's collection of work by the Washington Color School of the 1950s-70s, and more modern work, through March 6; "Robert Irwin: Gypsu Switch," the artist seeks to expand the realm of human perception through art and architecture, through March 6. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700, Corcoran.org.

Fairfax Art League: "Art Beautique

Images!," pictures and photographically enhanced works by Larry Oskin celebrating the beauty of women, flowers, cityscapes and local monuments, through March 2. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax; 703-273-2377, Fairfaxartleague.com.

LAST CHANCE Flashpoint: "Tracing Form," contemporary Irish artist Suzannah Vaughan presents glass and cement sculptures along with an instal-

lation of string, opening Fri., through Sat. 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1305, Flashpointdc.org.

Folger Shakespeare Library:

"Beyond Home Remedy: Women, Medicine, and Science," an exhibit chronicling the history of health care practices performed by women. Artifacts include a cookbook used by Martha Washington, tools used in childbirth and old specimens, through May 30. 201 East Capitol

St. SE; 202-544-4600, Folger.edu.

Freer Gallery of Art: "Chinamania: Whistler and the Victorian Craze for Blue and White," includes blue-and-white Chinese ceramic dishes, as well as drawings, paintings and etchings by James McNeill Whistler, through Aug. 7. "Seasons," through March 4. Jefferson Drive and 12th Street SW; 202-633-1000, Asia.si.edu.

Gallery 555: "The Media Is the Mes-

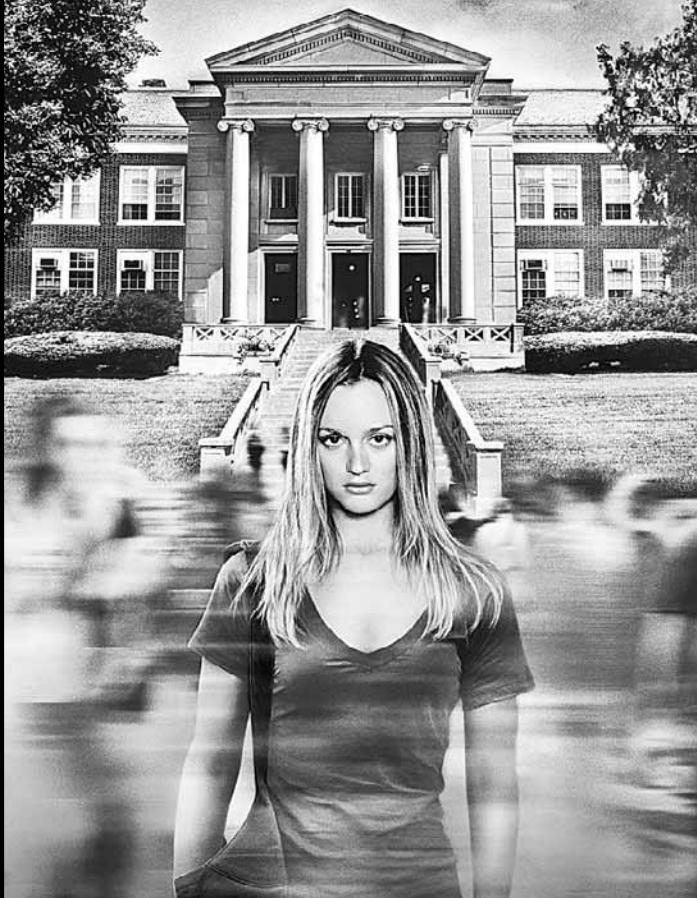
sage," work on display from three local artists who have worked in nontraditional mediums, through Feb. 25. 555 12th St. NW; 202-393-1409, Gallery555dc.com.

Gateway Arts Center: "Alternative Life," Jeremy Chase Sanders, a San Francisco-based textile artist with synesthesia, color-codes the threads in his hand-woven pieces to add a layer of

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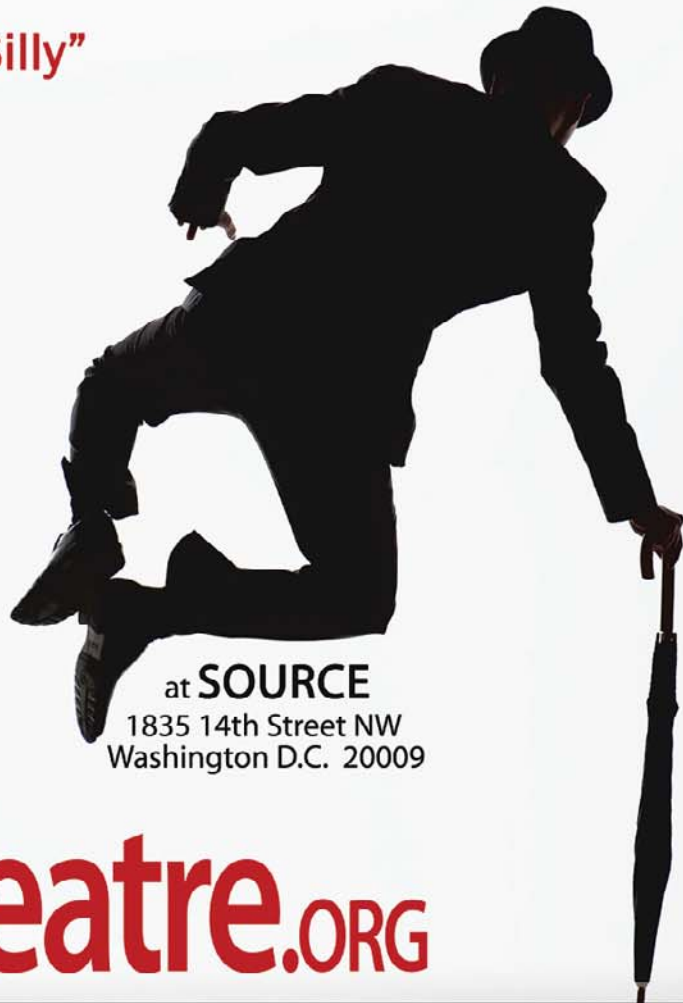
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Don Rockwell is the rainmaker of reservations. He can secure the most coveted tables at the best restaurants — even when everything is supposedly booked solid.

“I don’t want to sound arrogant, but when I call, people pick up,” says Rockwell.

His concierge service, DC Dining, which debuted at the end of last year, designs culinary experiences. Whether you’re trying to score a private room at a top-tier steakhouse, a last-minute reservation at a James Beard-winning restaurant or a prime seat at the trendiest hotspot, just make your reservation at Dcdining.com.

Since the launching of his first site, Donrockwell.com, in 2005 — an online forum where area gastronomes and industry professionals gather to chat (and sometimes bicker) about the region’s epicurean happenings — Rockwell has become one of the most well-regarded experts on D.C.’s dining scene. He posts lengthy reviews, moderates arguments and serves as an impresario for the foodie community.

When he isn’t online, he’s dining out, which helps him maintain his encyclopedic knowledge of the best eateries and introduces him to top chefs and restaurateurs.

“I really know more about this stuff and what’s available than just about anybody,” he says. “It’s my passion.”

We put Rockwell’s knowledge to the test and asked him to play culinary Cupid this Valentine’s Day — especially for you, dear Express reader. Whether chosen for its fine foods or fancy decor, here are his most intimate and upscale restaurant picks for breakfast, lunch and dinner. **NEVIN MARTELL**



KRIS CONNOR

Adour's omelette, bacon and fruit salad.

ADOUR

Breakfast

If you want a romantic rise'n' shine, the New York-based chef Alain Ducasse's D.C. outpost is ideal. Its two-person niches along the dining room wall are among the most intimate tables in town. Rockwell recommends ordering a few of pastry chef Fabrice Bendano's Parisian-style offerings, such as flaky croissants and the sweet, sticky pain au raisin. This meal just might make you feel like you're starting your Valentine's Day in the City of Light.

Adour, 923 16th St. NW; 202-509-8000, Adour-washingtondc.com.

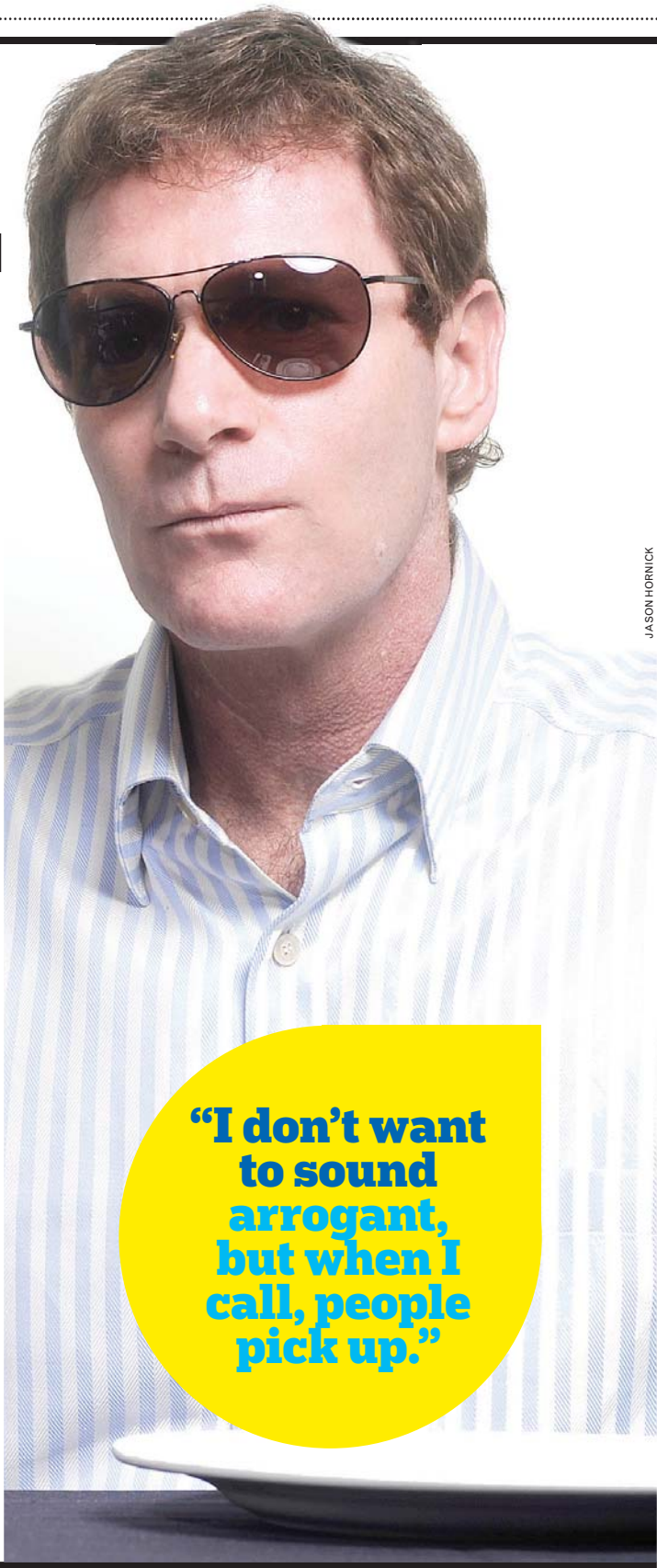


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SEASONS

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JASON HORNICK

“I don’t want to sound arrogant, but when I call, people pick up.”

HOT CHOCOLATES

Spice up your Valentine's Day with some peppery chocolates. These locally crafted confections bring together sweet and heat to create a loving union that would make Cupid proud. **N.M.**



Chipotle Chile Autumnally colored concentric circles and dark chocolate hide this delicacy's blazing core. A mixture of chipotle chile and cayenne pepper creates a flavorful inferno, while hints of vanilla bean and honey ensure that the fire is contained. *Artisan Confections, 1025 N. Fillmore St., Arlington.; 703-524-0007, Artisanconfections.com.*

dining | Weekend Pass

VIDALIA

Lunch

Vidalia is Rockwell's go-to spot when in need of comfort. He's an unabashed fan of the restaurant's Southern-twisted continental cuisine. Cozy up to the fried chicken with black pepper cream gravy, shrimp and grits covered in a shellfish emulsion, below, and the Shenandoah Angus cheeseburger. If you and your paramour can fit it in, order two forks and a slice of lemon chess pie to finish off your noontime tryst.

Vidalia, 1990 M St. NW; 202-659-1990, Vidaliadc.com.

Vidalia's shrimp and grits.



PLUME

Dinner

The library table at Plume is Rockwell's No. 1 recommendation in the entire city. Bookshelves packed with classics are painted on the walls of this tucked-away alcove. "It's like you're eating dinner at the Vanderbilt mansion," Rockwell jokes. Close the curtains that surround the table to nibble and canoodle in total privacy.

Plume, 1200 16th St. NW; 202-448-2322, Jeffersondc.com/restaurant-dining.

Plume's library room.

SUSHI KO



Back-Up

If you can, reserve bar seats in front of chef Koji Terano. "You'll have a personal chef for the evening," says Rockwell. "You can tell him what you like, he'll make it, hand it to you and then explain it." Sushi Ko, 2309 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-333-4187, Sushikorestaurants.com.

Plume's tender filet mignon.



THE OVAL ROOM

Back-Up

Send your tummy a Valentine's Day "I love you" card and order the rich chocolate peanut cake with Concord grape sorbet.

The Oval Room, 800 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-463-8700, Ovalroom.com.



Singled Out

Party of You

For those of you actively dodging the love bug, Eden (1716 I St. NW; 202-785-0270, Edendc.com) transforms its nature-inspired "Green Room" into the sensual "Red Room" for the lounge's "Stupid Cupid" bash. Hit the dance floor solo or couple up to dance to Top 40 beats. Women who arrive before midnight get a free flute of strawberry champagne.

Montezuma This Mexican-inspired bonbon is filled with a creamy dark chocolate ganache spiked with smoky chipotle chilies and piquant Saigon cinnamon. "It's not spicy at first," says confectioner Jane Morris. "But then it kicks people in the teeth as a surprise." J. Chocolatier, 1039 33 St. NW; 202-333-4111, Jchocolatier.com.

Pink Peppercorn White pepper and pink peppercorn unite for a sweet, floral beginning that gives way to a fiery finale. "The key is the milk chocolate filling," says creator Robert Ludlow. "That smoothes out the bite." Various locations, for details call 804-577-3819 or see Fleurirchocolates.com.

KIDS ARE FREE!



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Jeff Beck's Rock and Roll Party

with Imelda May and her Band

MARCH 24

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Morcheeba w/ Lance Herbrstrong	.....Th 10
Lotus w/ Daedalus (F 11 - & Mr. Lif)	.....F 11 & Sa 12
Yann Tiersen <i>Late Show! 10pm Doors</i>	.....Tu 15

FEBRUARY

Slightly Stoopid w/ Fishbone (W 16 - & Dumpstaphunk / Th 17 - & Tommy T)	.....W 16 & Th 17
Drive-By Truckers w/ J Roddy Walston and the Business	.....F 18
Los Lobos & Taj Mahal	.....M 21
Underoath & Thursday <i>Performing "Full Collapse" in its entirety</i> w/ Animals as Leaders & A Skylit Drive	.....Tu 22
Pat Green	.....W 23
Galactic featuring Cyril Neville and Corey Henry w/ High and Mighty Brass Band	.....Th 24
<i>The Atticus Metal Tour III</i> Darkest Hour w/ Born of Osiris • As Blood Runs Black • The Human Abstract <i>Early Show! 5pm Doors</i>	.....F 25
Wanda Jackson w/ The Lustre Kings <i>Late Show! 10pm Doors</i>	.....F 25
Jonathan Richman <i>Early Show! 7pm Doors</i>	.....Sa 26

MARCH

Middle Brother w/ Dawes & Deer Tick	.....W 2
Good Charlotte w/ Forever the Sickest Kids • This Century • Runner Runner	.....F 4
Corey Smith w/ Matt Stillwell <i>Early Show! 7pm Doors</i>	.....Sa 5
BLOWOFF featuring the DJ SOUNDS of BOB MOULD & RICHARD MOREL <i>21+ to enter.</i>	.....Sa 5

FIRST NIGHT SOLD OUT! SECOND NIGHT ADDED!

THE POGUES w/ Titus Andronicus	.....W 9
OMD w/ Oh Land	.....Th 10
Lady Gaga vs. Madonna vs. Kylie - <i>a dance party with DJ lil'e</i> w/ Dj Lemz & Visuals by Kylos	.....F 11
Streetlight Manifesto <i>Early Show! 4:30pm Doors</i>	.....Su 13
Apocalyptica w/ Caverns <i>Late Show! 10pm Doors. All 12/7 tickets will be honored.</i>	.....Su 13
Pete Yorn w/ Ben Kweller & The Wellspring	.....M 14
Lucinda Williams w/ Dylan LeBlanc	.....Tu 15
Loretta Lynn w/ Secret Sisters	.....Th 17
SOJA w/ Mambo Sauce & Chris Boomer	.....F 18
DeVotchKa w/ Mariachi El Bronx	.....Tu 22
Royksopp	.....W 23
The Mountain Goats	.....F 25
Cold War Kids w/ BathsSa 26

APRIL

Rise Against w/ Bad Religion & Four Year StrongTu 26
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Christian Lantry

**TUE., FEB. 15, 7:30PM
Taipei Chinese Orchestra
& Wu Man, pipa**

Hear works by acclaimed Chinese composers Tan Dun, Yi-Chien Chou, Leung-Fai Lo and others performed by this superb orchestra on traditional Chinese instruments. Guest soloist Wu Man is the internationally renowned virtuoso of the pipa, the lute-like Chinese instrument with a history of more than two thousand years. Tickets \$21-\$42 (Stars Price \$18.90-\$37.80)

This performance is part of the **STRATHMORE Guitar Festival**

WED., FEB. 16, 8PM

**Savion Glover:
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Tony-winning innovator Savion Glover and his company of musicians and dancers blend the sensuous, sinuous style of flamenco with the explosive, percussive force of Glover's style of tap. Tickets \$25-\$55 (Stars Price \$22.50-\$49.50)



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Continued from page E15

Smithsonian: A First Lady's Debut," through Feb. 2011. "A Gateway to the 19th Century: The William Steinway Diary, 1861-1896," through April 8; "The Kinsey Collection: Shared Treasures of Bernard and Shirley Kinsey — Where Art and History Intersect," through May 1; "Abraham Lincoln: An Extraordinary Life," through May 30; "Paper Engineering: Fold, Pull, Pop and Turn," through Oct. 10. 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, American-history.si.edu.

National Museum of Natural History: "Celebrating 100 Years at the National Museum of Natural History," a photographic exhibition recalling the museum's evolution, through March 20; "Cyprus: Crossroads of Civilizations," a look at the history of the Mediterranean island over 1,000 years, through May 1; "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef," a recent

discovery of geometry in coral reefs is looked at through crochet, through April 24. "Orchids: A View from the East" is the Smithsonian's 16th annual orchid exhibition, opening Sat., through April 24. 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, Mnh.si.edu.

National Museum of the American Indian: "R.C. Gorman: Early Prints and Drawings, 1966-1974," an exhibition of 28 lithographs and drawings by R.C. Gorman, a Navajo artist, through May 1. "Vantage Point: The Contemporary Native Art Collection," a look at the museum's contemporary art examining the past and present of Native Americans, through Aug. 7. Fourth Street and Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, Nmai.si.edu.

National Museum of Women in the Arts: "P(art)ners: Gifts from the Heather and Tony Podesta Collection," photographs and sculptures that offer

multiple views of the feminine identity and form, through March 6. "The Art of Travel: Picturesque Views of Europe by Richenda Cunningham," architectural photography captured in France, Switzerland, Italy and Germany, through March 13. 1250 New York Ave. NW; 202-783-5000, Nmwa.org.

National Portrait Gallery: "Americans Now," through June 19; "Elvis at 21: Photographs by Alfred Wertheimer," through Jan. 23; "Glimpse of the Past: A Neighborhood Evolves," through Jan. 8, 2012; "Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture," through Feb. 13; "One Life: Katharine Graham," through May 30. "Twentieth-Century Americans," through Jan. 8, 2012. Eighth and F streets NW; 202-633-1000, Npg.si.edu.

Newseum: "Athlete: The Sports Illustrated Photography of Walter Looss," through Dec. 31, 2011; "Covering Katrina," through Sept. 5; "Elvis! His Groundbreak-

ing, Hip-Shaking, Newsmaking Story," through Mon.; "G-Men and Journalists: Top News Stories of the FBI's First Century," through Dec. 31, 2011; "Inside Tim Russert's Office: If It's Sunday, It's Meet the Press," through Dec. 31, 2011; 555 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 888-639-7386, Newseum.org.

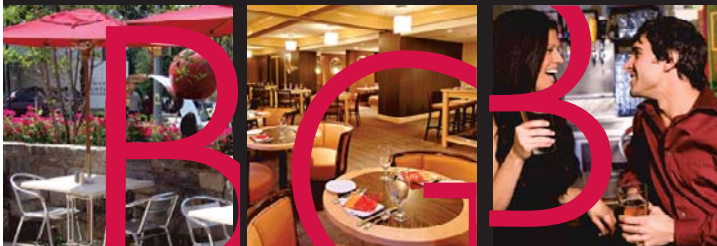
Phillips Collection: Howard Hodgkin's "As Time Goes By" and "Anniversary Reading Room," the first two exhibits of the Phillips Collection's new year-long exhibit and installation series "90 Years of New," through May 8. "Installations: Jae Ko," the artist presents his three-part installation called "Force of Nature," made from packing paper, through Feb. 20. "David Smith Invents," opening Sat., through May 15. "Philip Guston, Roma," paintings examining the works Guston completed while an artist-in-residence at the American Acad-

Continued on page E21



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5 pm to Closing

Academy Awards Night

Sunday, February 27th

An All Night Celebration Starting 5 PM till....

Countdown Menu

\$15.00 Entrées — \$10.00 Featured Wine Bottles -- \$5 Martinis

\$4.00 Appetizers — \$3.00 Domestic Bottle Beer

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FEBRUARY 10-23

10 THU ★ Ted Garber

This Strathmore Artist-in-Residence plays "BluesAmericanaRock" with smoky vocals, howling harmonica riffs, and screaming guitar licks.

11 FRI ★ National Symphony Orchestra Prelude

NSO musicians Joel Fuller, violin, James Nickel, horn, and Lisa Emenheiser, piano, play works by Debussy and Brahms.

12 SAT ★ Reverb / Blacks in Wax

A cappella gospel group Reverb performs *Black History in Harmony* with support by Blacks in Wax, youths transforming from "wax" characters into live portrayals of notable political and artistic leaders.

IN THE CONCERT HALL

13 SUN ★ NSO Young Soloists' High School Competition

Hear tomorrow's stars today as they compete for a cash prize and a solo performance with the NSO.

14 MON ★ Heartland Chamber Choral

The Fort Wayne, Indiana group led by Robert Nance is recognized as one of the region's finest choral ensembles.

15 TUE ★ Graham Reynolds and the Low End Quartet

Composer Graham Reynolds fuses the story of 19th century inventor and mathematician Charles Babbage and his invention, the difference engine (an attempt to create the world's first computer), in a loose concerto format for violin, cello, and piano.

16 WED ★ Jane Franklin Dance

The modern dance company performs *Take a Deep Breath*, an evening of dance pieces with accompaniment.

17 THU ★ Deep River

The power-folk trio performs its "Front Porch Pop," a combination of pop, folk, blues, and straight-up homegrown sass.

18 FRI ★ Asheru

The D.C.-based artist, who performs the opening and closing themes for popular series *The Boondocks*, is a pioneer in hip hop education and a Peabody Award winner.

19 SAT ★ Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra

KCOHO members play Dohnányi's Sextet in C major and more.

20 SUN ★ Dr. Everett N. Jones III

A professor at Wilberforce University, he performs a solo recital of piano works by African American composers.

IN THE TERRACE THEATER (UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)

The Conservatory Project

21 MON ★ Curtis Institute of Music

Students perform an all-Ravel chamber recital, including *Chansons madécasses*, *Sonatine*, *Trois poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé*, and *Quartet in F major*.

22 TUE ★ New England Conservatory of Music

Works by Mendelssohn, Rachmaninoff, and others

23 WED ★ University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre, and Dance

Works by Piazzola, Shostakovich, Sondheim, and others.

ALL PERFORMERS AND PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



THU 10 ★ TED GARBER



TUE 15 ★ GRAHAM REYNOLDS



THU 17 ★ DEEP RIVER

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The Kennedy Center



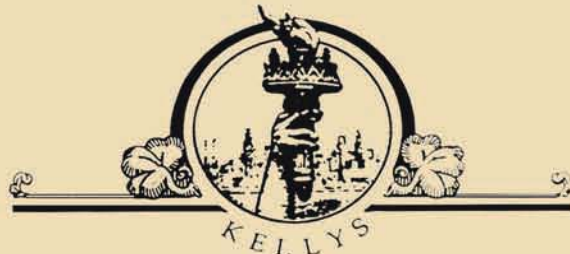
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Continued from page E19

emy in Rome, opening Sat., through May 15. 1600 21st St. NW; 202-387-2151, Phillipscollection.org.

Smithsonian American Art

Museum: "Alexis Rockman: A Fable for Tomorrow," through May 8. "Close to Home: Photographers and Their Families," opening Fri., through July 24. "Body and Soul," Sat. at 3 p.m. Eighth and F streets NW; 202-633-1000, Americanart.si.edu.

Susan Calloway Fine Arts: "Atmospheres and Imaginary Soundtracks," works by Matthew Langley, through Feb. 26. 1643 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-965-4601, Callowayart.com.

Textile Museum: "Colors of the Oasis: Central Asian Ikats," a look at the museum's collection of ikats, clothing from central Asia that defined a man's status in society and wealth, through March 13. "Second Lives: The Age-Old Art of Recycling Textiles," examples of how various cultures reuse fabric, including a vest made from a blanket and a large patchwork of small scraps of silk ikat, opening Fri., through July 10. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441, Textilemuseum.org.

LAST CHANCE The Old Print Gallery:

"Winter's Tenor," 15 artists use prints to examine the transformation that happens during the year's coldest, darkest months, through Mon. 1220 31st St. NW; 202-965-1818, Oldprintgallery.com.

Vivid Solutions DC: "A space for the transitory," artist Chajana denHarder is both photographer and subject, through Feb. 18. 2208 Martin Luther King Ave. SE; 202-631-6291.

Woodrow Wilson House: "The Art of First Lady Ellen Axson Wilson: American Impressionist," a selection of 18 paintings by the former first lady, through April 10. 2340 S St. NW; 202-387-4062, Woodrowwilsonhouse.org.



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24, 7, 365: Theater of the First Amendment presents a play in which everyone is happy all the time, through Feb. 27. \$30, \$15 ages 12 to 18. Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H St. NE; 202-399-

7993, Atlasarts.org.

An Almost Holy Picture: The Pulitzer Prize-nominated play follows a man traveling from Massachusetts to New Mexico, through Feb. 20, \$20-\$30, \$18-\$28 seniors, \$12 students. Rep Stage, Howard Community College, 10901 Little Patuxent Pkwy., Columbia; 443-518-1500, Repstage.org.

LAST CHANCE Beyond the Horizon: American Century Theater presents Eugene O'Neill's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about two brothers in love with the same woman, opens Fri., through Mon., \$29-\$32, \$26-\$29 seniors and students. Gunston Arts Center Theater II, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington; 703-998-4555.

Charming Billy: Friends and family of the late Billy Lynch gather at a bar to discuss his life as a lover, a dreamer and a drunk, through Feb. 20, \$25-\$60. Round House Theatre, 4545 East West Hwy., Bethesda; 240-644-1100, Roundhousetheatre.org.

Fuddy Meers: A host of bizarre characters attempt to help a woman with no memory remember her life, opens Fri.,

Continued on page E22

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FLIP ORLEY MAR 16 - 20 America's Premier Comic Hypnotist	JO KOY MAR 24 - 26 "Chelsea Lately" on E! & Comedy Central	JUDAH FRIEDLANDER MAR 31-APR 3 NBC's "30 Rock" & Comedy Central	BOBBY SLAYTON APR 7 - 10 "The pitbull of Comedy" on HBO	PATRICE ONEAL APR 15 - 17 HBO, Comedy Central & "The Late Show"

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13	the church 'Future Past Perfect US Tour 2011' Three Decades of the church in 3 Classic Albums 'Untitled #23, Priest=Aura, & Starfish' all performed in their entirety in one night!
14	Burlesque-A-Pades! PRESENTS February Frolic STARRING Angie Pontani, Helen Pontani, Melody Sweets, Mistiekie, Tyler Fyre, Deanna Danger. The World Famous Pontani Sisters, and Hosted by Ripleys Believe it or Not's own Albert Cadabra!
16	Herb Alpert & Lani Hall
17	CELTIC CROSSROADS As seen on PBS!
18	CD Release Show! Tom Principato Band & Bill Kirchen the Honky Tonk Gods
21	The Robert Cray Band
23	Keola & Moana Beamer
24	JAMES HUNTER with sp. guests LOS STRAITJACKETS
25	Pat McGee Band Jonathan Mudd
26	Maura O'Connell Jonell Mosser

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Continued from page E21

through Feb. 27, \$25; students, \$15. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean; 800-838-3006, 1ststagespringhill.org.

LAST CHANCE Giselle: The Mariinsky Ballet performs a classical ballet about a simple peasant girl betrayed by love, through Sun. Kennedy Center, Opera House, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600. 800-444-1324, Kennedy-center.org.

His Eye Is on the Sparrow: Bernardine Mitchell stars in the story of actress and singer Ethel Waters, through March 20, \$45-\$50. MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria; 703-548-9044, 800-494-8497, Metrostage.org.

LAST CHANCE Let Me Down Easy: Anna Deavere Smith's one-woman show is based on more than 300 interviews with people about mortality, through Sun., \$55-\$85. Arena Stage, 1101 Sixth St. SW; 202-488-3300, Arenastage.org.

LAST CHANCE Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet: Tarell Alvin McCraney's "The Brother/Sister Plays" ("The Brothers Size" and "In the Red and Brown Water") concludes with a young man's search

for love in Louisiana, through Sun., \$35-\$65, seniors and students \$5 discount. Studio Theatre, 1501 14th St. NW; 202-332-3300, Studiotheatre.org.

LAST CHANCE Mirandy and Brother Wind: A young girl attempts to capture the wind and make him her dance partner. In partnership with the African Continuum Theatre Company, opens Fri. through Sun., \$15. Glen Echo Park, Adventure Theatre, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo; 301-634-2270, Adventuretheatre.org.

Oedipus El Rey: Michael John Garcés directs an updated version Oedipus complete with crime, love and cruel fate, through March 6. Woolly Mammoth Theatre, 641 D St. NW; 202-393-3939, Woollymammoth.net.

On The Razzle: Constellation Theatre Company presents Tom Stoppard's play about two shop clerks run amok, through March 6, \$25-\$30, \$20-\$25 students. Source, 1835 14th St. NW; 202-204-7800, Sourcedc.org.

On the Road: Work by artists who prefer to create their work outside the studio, through April 2. Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-248-

6800, Arlingtonartscenter.org.
Owl Moon: Taffety Punk Theatre Company presents Liz Maestri's play about love, body bags and a talking owl, through Feb. 26, \$10. Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, 545 Seventh St. SE; 202-547-6839, Chaw.org.

Perseus Bayou: The Greek myth of Perseus and Medusa gets a new, musical twist. Set in post-Civil War Louisiana, Percy and his friends must travel to the edge of the world to save the bayou from Polydectes, opens Sat. through March 13, \$10-\$22. Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-280-1660, Imaginationstage.org.

LAST CHANCE Sunset Boulevard: Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical focuses on the old glamour of Hollywood, through Sun., \$59-\$85. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, 703-573-7328, Signature-theatre.org.

The Arabian Nights: A young woman in ancient Baghdad entertains a king with imaginative stories to delay her execution, opens Fri., through Feb. 20, \$40-\$85. Limited discounts available for patrons under 30, SW residents

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and Metro riders. Arena Stage, 1101 Sixth St. SW; 202-488-3300, Arenastage.org.

LAST CHANCE The Carpetbagger's

Children: Sisters Cornelia, Grace Anne and Sissie attempt to preserve their family's Texas plantation after the Civil War, through Sun. Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St. NW; 202-347-4833, Fordstheatre.org.

The Comedy of Errors: Aaron Posner directs Shakespear's comedy about twins involved in a case of mistaken identity, through March 6, \$30-\$60. Folger Theatre, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077, Folger.edu.

LAST CHANCE The Cripple of Inish-

maan: DRUID, an Irish theater company, and New York's Atlantic Theatre presents a play about a Hollywood film crew's influence in a rural Ireland town, through Sat., \$25-\$69. Kennedy Center, Eisenhower Theater, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600. 800-444-1324, Kennedy-center.org.

LAST CHANCE The Gondoliers: The staged concert reading is presented by the Washington Savoyards, opens Fri. through Sun., \$15-\$25. Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H St. NE; 202-399-

7993, Atlasarts.org.

The Innocent Eréndira and Her Heartless Grandmother:

Gabriel García Márquez's story of a girl forced into prostitution by her grandmother to repay a debt is directed by Jorge Ali Triana, through Feb. 27, \$20-\$36. GALA Theatre-Tivoli, 3333 14th St. NW; 202-234-7174, Galatheatre.org.

The Sound of Palin: Gross National Product lampoons the former vice presidential candidate, through Feb. 18, \$20, \$15 seniors, \$10 students and children. Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H St. NE; 202-399-7993, Atlasarts.org.

The Weir: Keegan Theatre presents the story of a woman who is new to town and able to top the ghostly stories of a pub's regulars with her own tales of mysetry and intrigue, opens Sat. through March 13, \$35, \$30 seniors and students. Church Street Theater, 1742 Church St. NW; 703-892-0202, Keegantheatre.com.

Touch: No Rules Theatre Co. presents a play about a man who grieves after the loss of his wife, opens Fri. through Feb. 27, \$25. H Street Playhouse, 1365

H St. NE; 202-396-2125, Hstreetplayhouse.com.

LAST CHANCE Under the Shadow of

Wings: Ambassador Theater presents two mysteries: "Karna and Kunti" by Rabindranath Tagore and "Death of Tintagiles" by Maurice Maeterlinck, through Sat., \$10-\$25, Flashpoint, 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1305, Flashpointdc.org.

Welcome Home, Jenny Sutter: The University of Maryland School of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies presents a show about a wounded Marine sergeant who finds help in a community in the California desert, opens Fri. through Feb. 19, \$27, seniors \$25, students \$9. Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Kogod Theatre, University of Maryland, Route 193 and Stadium Drive, College Park; 301-405-2787, Claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

SATURDAY ONLY Wrestling Jerusa-

lem: Aaron Davidman and Aaron Posner collaborate to present a solo performance about a man's journey from New York to the Middle East, Sat., \$10. Theater J, 1529 16th St. NW; 800-494-8497, Theaterj.org.

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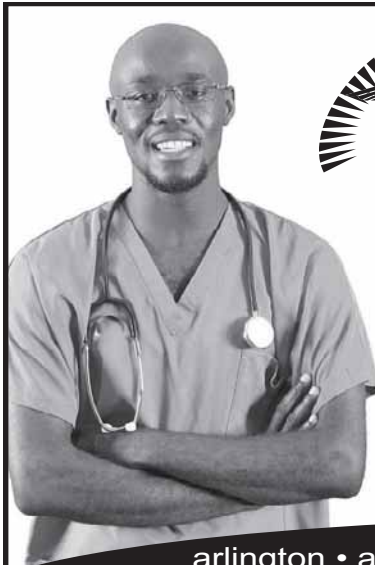
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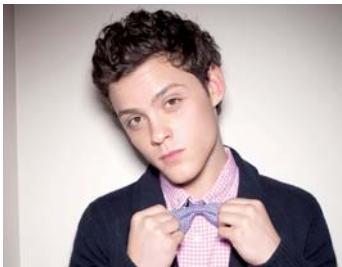
VMFA
VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

lookout



Falling Out With a Boy
Ashlee Simpson splits from Pete Wentz after short-lived marriage **31**

Broadcast Muse



COURTESY MTV

'Skins': Good or Evil?

Returning to "Saturday Night Live" last week, Dana Carvey's smug Church Lady declared that TV is full of "evil" shows, like "Skins," MTV's hyperstylized tale o' hypersexual teens.

Is "Skins" truly evil? Let's analyze the first episode.

Evidence of good intentions: "Skins"

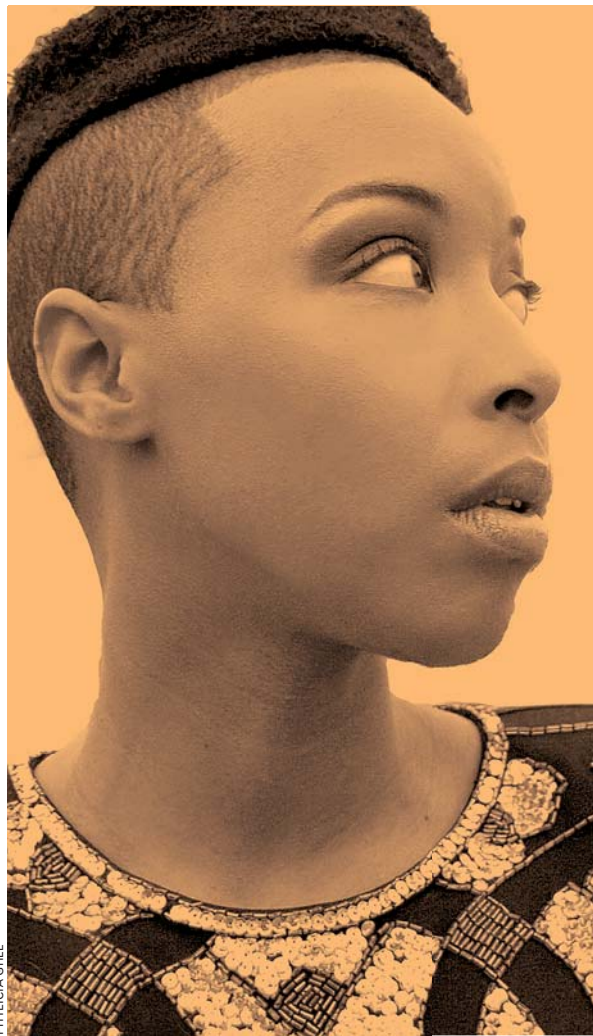


By Marc Silver

is nickname for sheath that can prevent sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy. Teen Tony (James Newman, above) arranges for pal Stanley to lose his "V-card." Stanley does not take advantage of designated virginity taker when she passes out due to ingesting "a busload of pills," but he helps drive her to the hospital. Tony displays angelic tenor while auditioning for choir.

Evidence of evil: Tony's audition song is Cole Porter's "Let's Do It," an apt summation of "Skins'" stance on teen fornication. Tony locks door to home bathroom, enraging dad, then leaves bathroom via window so dad screams at locked door in vain. Tony gives Michelle low self-esteem by saying she has funny nipples. Rampant drug use has no down side, except possible death of Stanley if he fails to pay dealer for \$900 worth of marijuana.

Conclusion: The road to hell is paved with good intentions.



PHYLLICIA GHEE

A few short years ago, music was just a hobby for neo-soul singer Carolyn Malachi. But this Sunday night, the D.C. native will find herself up against the likes of Janelle Monae and Cee Lo Green as a Grammy nominee for Best Urban/Alternative Performance for the ethereal song "Orion," off of her breakout EP, "Lions, Fires & Squares."

The great-granddaughter of noted D.C. jazz pianist John Malachi, the vocalist got her start singing in college, becoming a fixture in the city's R&B scene for her eclectic blend of hip-hop, spoken word and soul. She self-produced her first disc last year, and "Orion" quickly took off as a single without any major-label backing or promotion.

Ahead of her red-carpet debut Sunday at the 53rd Annual Grammy Awards (8 p.m., CBS), Express spoke with Malachi about mermaids, Barbra Streisand and the bright side of layoffs.

What did you do after finding out you'd been nominated for a Grammy?

I cried like a big baby. I was actually getting ready to

Grammy Bound

D.C.'s Carolyn Malachi goes big with a nomination at this year's annual music industry awards

go onstage at LIV nightclub on U Street. I just fell to my knees and started crying. My stylist and manager were with me. We were celebrating and crying. When I announced the nomination to the audience, everyone's eyes got really big.

What's the story behind "Orion"?

I wrote "Orion" just thinking about the distance between the person I was talking to and myself, feeling like a mermaid trying to reach an astronaut. I was trying to express that feeling of, "Wow, I really feel like it's just too hard to talk to you."

Who are you most excited to see at the Grammys?

I really want to meet Barbra Streisand. I just want to pick her brain. She's established her career and created a legacy just by being who she is. You have to be yourself because that's what's going to make you shine. Her example has definitely taught me that.

If you win, who will you thank in your acceptance speech?

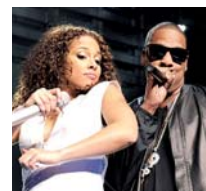
I would definitely thank James McKinney, my producer. He's more than my producer; he's my big brother by now. I'd also thank the other artists in my category. I think it's really cool to be among these talented artists. Just as much as I study my influences, I study my contemporaries.

You released your first two albums while you still had a full-time day job at the National Harbor. What made you take the leap into making music full time?

In 2009, it got pretty tough for everybody. The Gaylord Hotel, just like a lot of companies in the area, had to cut their workforce. My position was one of the positions that was eliminated. The day I got the news, a friend of mine said, "Congratulations; now you have the time to do what you want." KRISTINA GRAY

Award Picks

Who will walk home with a gold-plated gramophone? We offer predictions in two major categories.



Record of The Year

Nominees: B.o.B. & Bruno Mars, "Nothin' On You"; Eminem & Rihanna "Love the Way You Lie"; Cee Lo Green, "F*** You"; Jay-Z & Alicia Keys, "Empire State of Mind"; Lady Antebellum, "Need You Now"

Who Should Win: Cee Lo Green

Who Will Win: Jay-Z & Alicia Keys

The Skinny: Cee Lo's soul anthem is the best kiss-off in years, but Jay-Z's ode to the Big Apple might as well be New York's new theme song.



Album of The Year

Nominees: Arcade Fire, "The Suburbs"; Eminem, "Recovery"; Lady Antebellum, "Need You Now"; Lady Gaga, "The Fame Monster"; Katy Perry, "Teenage Dream"

Who Should Win: Arcade Fire

Who Will Win: Eminem

The Skinny: Eminem wins as a reward for cleaning up his act and to make up for his 2001 loss to Steely Dan, who was similarly snubbed years earlier. (EXPRESS)



Comments? Give Marc your feedback: expressnightout.com/muse

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lookout entertainment

The Solace Of Solitude

Virginia's Jack Tatum is the one-man-band behind Wild Nothing

Concert Preview

When Virginia native Jack Tatum started writing songs as Wild Nothing in 2009, he was still a student at Virginia Tech, spending the summer before his senior year in Savannah, Ga. With no job and not much to do, the singer and guitarist began writing dreamy, '80s-pop-influenced songs, with no real aspirations attached.

Tatum posted some demo tracks to MySpace, and a few days later, he got a message. Mike Sniper, head of Brooklyn-based independent label Captured Tracks, wanted to make a full Wild Nothing album.

"Honestly, I probably wouldn't have even made the record if he hadn't asked for one, because that wasn't the sort of thing that I was [planning]," the 22-year-old says.

Tatum spent six months during his senior year writing, recording and producing Wild Nothing's debut album, "Gemini," by himself, with a laptop running GarageBand, a mixer and a microphone.

But songwriting has always been a solitary affair for Tatum. A guitar player since he was 10, he first started writing songs when he was 15, dubbing himself Jack and the Whale, a moniker he continued in college. "I never knew anyone growing up that



Jack Tatum worked on Wild Nothing's first album as a senior at Virginia Tech.

played music, so I hadn't had that high school band experience," he says.

Dream pop in the best sense, "Gemini" shows the influence of My Bloody Valentine, Cocteau Twins and the Smiths, bands Tatum was listening to as he wrote the record.

"I feel more like a fan of music than a musician, so why would I try to hide what I was listening to or what I wanted my music to sound like?" he explains.

Now backed by a three-piece live band, Tatum isn't sure he's ready to let them into his writing process.

It's "not because I want to be a control freak," he says. "I've just never been able to write music with other people." **RUDI GREENBERG (EXPRESS)**

● **Rock and Roll Hotel, 1353 H St. NE; with Abe Vigoda, Deleted Scenes; Sat., 9:30 p.m., \$10-\$12; 202-388-7625.**

Casting Call



Julia Roberts has closed a deal to star as the queen in Relativity Media's untitled Snow White film. Directed by Tarsem Singh, the movie is scheduled to begin shooting in April for a 2012 release. In this modern-edged take written by Melissa Wallack and Jason Keller, Snow White looks for payback along with the seven dwarves after her evil step-mother kills her father. **(THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)**

TV tonight **lookout**

Great White Punch Line

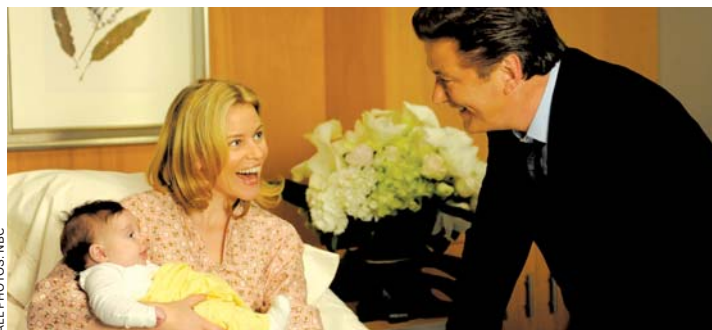
Canada is the subject of much mockery via '30 Rock' and 'Parks'

Comedy

NBC 9:30 Canada jokes abound on NBC's staggering comedy block. On "30 Rock" (10 p.m.) Jack (Alec Baldwin) and Avery (Elizabeth Banks) find themselves north of the border when Avery feels stirrings of childbirth. Ever the stalwart patriot, Jack moves mountains to keep his offspring from being born anywhere but the home of the brave.

The snowy dominion also figures in a subplot on "Parks & Recreation" (9:30 p.m.). Tom (Aziz Ansari) has to cut short his dalliance with Ron's (Nick Offerman) ex-wife when she declares that she has to return home to care for her parents — and that her parents are, gasp, Canadian.

Canada jokes aside, you can't say



It's a "30 Rock" baby for Avery (Elizabeth Banks, left) and Jack (Alec Baldwin, right).



Ron (Nick Offerman, above) gets cornrows on a new "Parks & Recreation."

"Parks and Recreation" isn't trying. Megan Mullally does her best as Ron's ex-wife, a sexually ravenous and deranged librarian. She does inspire the gruff and conservative Ron to have his hair done in cornrows, the episode's funniest moment. Rob Lowe appears to be having fun as a slightly creepy type-A office drone. But the arrival of famous guests usually comes at a time when a sitcom has run out of creative gas. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Best Bets

CW 8:00



The Vampire Diaries Elena (Nina Dobrev, left) and Stefan (Paul Wesley, right) hope to have a romantic weekend at the Gilbert family lake house, unaware that they are being followed. Jenna frets that Alaric isn't being honest with her. Damon tries to talk to Elijah. Bonnie elicits shocking information from Luka.

FOX 9:00

Bones After a failed bike stunt, a BMX rider's remains are discovered on a warehouse roof, leading Booth and Brennan to question the victim's fellow riders, while Hodgins and Fisher identify the corpse's fractures.

NBC 9:00

The Office As Valentine's Day comes to the Scranton offices of Dunder Mifflin, the public displays of affection between Holly (Amy Ryan) and Michael (Steve Carell, right) make everyone uncomfortable.



A&E 10:00

Beyond Scared Straight Four teenagers headed for serious trouble get an eye-opening look at what life behind bars is like at one of America's most notorious prisons: San Quentin. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)

Competition



Pig Wrestling

On the game show "Wipeout" (8 p.m., ABC), contestants including the Hockey Hottie, Ripped Rhino and Mr. Grinch get a decidedly frosty reception from the Snowplow Sweeper and try to avoid a chilling plunge off the Wipeout Ski Lift as they struggle to navigate the snow-laden course in a bid to win \$50,000. John Anderson and John Henson host. (TM)

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Poll Center

Today's Question

SHOULD FORMER VA. GOV. TIM KAINE RUN FOR JIM WEBB'S SENATE SEAT IN 2012?

VOTE AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM OR TEXT A FOR YES OR B FOR NO TO 98999

Wednesday's Results

SHOULD PEPCO REIMBURSE CUSTOMERS LEFT WITHOUT POWER AFTER A JAN. STORM?



"No, this would set a very dangerous precedent for service providers. Imagine if Metro had to reimburse customers every time one of its trains crapped out or a bus ran over a pedestrian! They'd be bankrupt overnight!"

COMMENTER DIOGENES

"Sure, and they should do it happily. Since utilities law allows companies a guaranteed return on any costs, anything that costs Pepco money is, by law, returned to them in higher rates plus a little extra for profit."

COMMENTER BRAD2

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

"The beer industry is notable for creating useless contraptions for the dispensing and distribution of beer. Vortex bottles, a box with a clear window so you can see how many beers are left, and mountains that turn blue so that you can tell if the beer in your hand is cold. ... So it's nice to see something that actually looks useful."

—BRIANSBELLY.COM LIKES THE BOTTOMSUP BEER DISPENSER, WHICH IS NOW FEATURED AT THE VERIZON CENTER. THE DISPENSER FILLS CUPS FROM UNDERNEATH, WHICH SPEEDS UP SERVICE AND ENSURES A COMPLETE POUR.



"I don't know about you, but I still cannot get over the news that actor/tough guy Steven Seagal taught Anderson Silva the kick he used to knock out Vitor Belfort at UFC 126. We figured Seagal being part of Silva's entourage was more of a joke than anything else."

—LARRYBROWNSPORTS.COM IS BAFFLED THAT SEAGAL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH SILVA IS REAL.



"There are not any plans to erect a statue to Robocop. Thank you for the suggestion."

—DETROIT MAYOR DAVE BING TWEETED MONDAY IN RESPONSE TO SOMEONE WHO MADE THE SUGGESTION, COMPARING THE SITUATION TO PHILADELPHIA'S STATUE OF ROCKY.



"Now don't get me wrong: I'm all for Fantasia [Barrino] moving forward with her career — I just don't think this makes any sense. Sure, she has a voice, but does she sing like Mahalia [Jackson]? I would say no."

—THATBLACKGIRLSITE.COM ISN'T SO SURE ABOUT BARRINO'S ABILITY TO PLAY JACKSON IN AN UPCOMING BIOPIIC ABOUT THE GOSPEL SINGER'S LIFE.

time to play...
NAME THAT RESTAURANT!

The new restaurant and bar at **Artisphere**, an urban arts center in Arlington, needs a new name. **Got any ideas?**
Submit your best name to
Expressnightout.com/contests
before noon on Friday, February 18

NAME IT AND WIN!

If your name idea is the winner, as voted on by Express readers, you'll win a private party at **Artisphere** including cocktails and dinner!
Helpful Hint: The theme will be *locally sourced comfort food* with a *Latin twist*.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Contest is sponsored by Express Publications LLC and Artisphere (collectively, "Sponsor"). Contest is open to those who are 18 years of age or older and live in Washington, DC, Maryland, or Virginia at the time of entry and receipt of any prize. To enter, log onto www.expressnightout.com/contests, or mail a 3 1/2" x 5" postcard with your complete name, address, daytime phone number, email (optional), date of birth and nomination for restaurant name to The Washington Post Express Marketing, Artisphere Restaurant Naming Contest, 1150 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20071. Void where prohibited by law. Entry period begins on 2/8/2011 at 12:00 am Eastern Time ("ET") & ends on 2/18/2011 at 12:00 p.m. ET ("Entry Period"). Subject to official rules. Odds of winning depend on the number of entrants. For complete contest rules, log on to www.expressnightout.com/contests.

ARTISPHERE
www.artisphere.com

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puzzles lookout

Horoscope

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You will have more questions to ask, even after you've presented your situation to the experts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) A private failure needn't become a public one. You can minimize the damage done by someone who has stepped out of line.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You'll want to get together with certain individuals to share ideas and explore options; be sure to listen and talk.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You receive word of a surprise development far from home that nevertheless affects you in a direct and possibly dramatic way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may behave in odd ways, but there is certainly a method to your madness. A friend or loved one knows just what is going on.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A sensitive situation arises that demands more from you than discretion and circumspection.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Are you truly prepared for what you have brought about? Today, you'll have only so much time to arrange things in the proper order.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You're likely to enjoy the unknown far more than expected, but by then, of course, it will be known.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Money matters require a certain worldview at this time; you can adjust your outlook slightly and improve things dramatically.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You may be expected to shift gears quickly and more than a few times, but all transitions can be smooth and productive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The path you have taken to get where you are is likely to reveal certain hidden dangers, but you are safely past them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) What you are trying to orchestrate at this time may require more from you than your usual organizational skills. Tact will be the key.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 150-160, BEST SCORE 215

E ₁	O ₁	O ₁	T ₁	M ₃	R ₁	P ₃

--

 RACK 1

E ₁	I ₁	U ₁	U ₁	S ₁	D ₂	B ₃

3rd Letter Triple

--

 RACK 2

A ₁	E ₁	O ₁	N ₁	M ₃	H ₄	B ₃

Double Word Score

--

 RACK 3

E ₁	O ₁	U ₁	S ₁	S ₁	P ₃	P ₃

--

 RACK 4

Yesterday's Solution

T ₁	O ₁	R ₁	R ₁	E ₁	N ₁	T ₁
S ₁	H ₄	R ₁	I ₁	F ₄	T ₁	
G ₂	R ₁	I ₁	F ₄	F ₄	I ₁	N ₁
U ₁	P ₃	S ₁	W ₄	E ₁	P ₃	T ₁

 PAR SCORE 150-160
 RACK 1 = 57
 RACK 2 = 12
 RACK 3 = 68
 RACK 4 = 78
 TOTAL 215

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

DIFFICULT

		8		3	4			
3					7	9		4
								2
1		6						
	9		5		3		6	
						2		7
9								
7		4	2					5
			7	4		8		

Yesterday's Solution

5	2	3	1	9	7	4	6	8
6	8	4	3	5	2	9	7	1
7	9	1	6	4	8	5	2	3
8	4	2	9	3	5	7	1	6
9	5	6	2	7	1	8	3	4
1	3	7	4	8	6	2	9	5
2	6	9	5	1	4	3	8	7
4	1	8	7	2	3	6	5	9
3	7	5	8	6	9	1	4	2

Need more Sudolku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Comics

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POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast

34 | 22

Today: Cold today with some clouds, then sunshine. Mainly clear tonight.

42 | 28

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and not as cold tomorrow. Partly cloudy tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead

SAT
SUN
MON
44 | 30 53 | 35 50 | 34

Sun and Moon
 Sunrise today: 7:06 a.m.
 Sunset today: 5:39 p.m.
 Moonrise today: 10:22 a.m.
 Moonset today: 12:11 a.m.

Almanac
 Normal high: 45
 Record high: 70
 Normal low: 29
 Record low: -7

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lookout puzzles

Crossword

WING DING

ACROSS

- 1 Seven-foot, e.g.
- 5 Caked deposit
- 9 ____ dog (zesty frankfurter)
- 14 This and that
- 15 Steakhouse specification
- 16 ____ of Troy
- 17 An old-timer
- 20 Insinuates
- 21 ____ de cologne
- 22 Tries to get information
- 23 Beast of burden
- 24 Energy
- 26 Kind of party
- 28 Sink plumbing piece
- 30 Type of 50 percent discount
- 34 Word that often precedes "showtime"
- 37 ____ of Man
- 39 Wow
- 40 Wearing one's birthday suit
- 44 Motivation
- 45 Peeping Tom, for one
- 46 Film doctor with seven faces

- 47 Alpine refrains
- 49 Zenith

- 51 Far from frowzy
- 53 ____ for tat
- 54 Indian Mr.
- 57 Made ecstatic
- 60 Gray soldier (Abbr.)
- 62 Beaver, at times
- 64 Eminently satisfied with oneself
- 67 Rate for purity
- 68 Ski lift
- 69 Little letter
- 70 Arrange, as hair
- 71 Yearnings
- 72 The wife of Geraint in Arthurian lore

DOWN

- 1 Where pa'anga are spent

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20							21				22			
23					24		25		26		27			
					28			29		30			31	32
34	35	36				37			38		39			
40				41	42					43				
44							45						46	
47						48		49			50			
					51			52		53			54	55
57	58	59				60		61		62		63		
64					65				66					
67							68					69		
70							71					72		

EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

- 2 "A Lesson from ____" (Fugard drama)
- 3 Shopping aids
- 4 Severs
- 5 Standards
- 6 Was published
- 7 Strongly encourage
- 8 Coffee before bedtime
- 9 X, in old Greece
- 10 Mass sacrifice of old
- 11 Varieties or types
- 12 Scallion relative
- 13 Wayside taverns
- 18 Hanging on every word
- 19 Wounded
- 25 On the way out
- 27 Not in the office
- 29 Dry lake bed
- 31 Get an F
- 32 Pound of poems
- 33 Make over
- 34 Nickname for a Ford character
- 35 Poi base
- 36 Uncontrolled slide
- 38 What bouncers do
- 41 Certain to happen
- 42 Text-removal directive
- 43 Knights' servants
- 48 ____ Lee (frozen dessert brand)
- 50 Sicilian volcano
- 52 Quick to get angry
- 54 What Sinatra's fans did
- 55 Straight muscles
- 56 Bothered
- 57 Health clubs
- 58 Formerly, once

- 59 Too inquisitive
- 61 Slugger Ruth
- 63 Teenagers' least favorite spots?
- 65 Use Grecian Formula
- 66 Sweeping shot

Yesterday's Solution

1	P	R	I	D	E		8	S	K	Y		9	A	M	O	O	T
4	H	I	D	E	S		11	H	O	E		12	M	A	U	N	A
13	E	C	L	A	T		14	A	L	L		15	M	A	T	E	R
16	W	H	E	R	E		19	S	W	A	L		20	D	O		
21	S	P	I	E	L		22	S	A	N		23	A	N	D		
24	P	E	N				25	A	W	A	I		26	A	D	I	
27	E	R	A	S			28	S	P	L	I		29	O	G	R	E
30	C	U	B	I			31	T	O	E		32	H	U	E		
33							34	S	A	R	I		35	S	I	N	I
36							37					38	O	V	A		
39							40					41					
42							43					44					
45							46					47					
48							49					50					
51							52					53					
54							55					56					
57							58					59					
60							61					62					
63							64					65					
66							67					68					
69							70					71					
72							73					74					

Today in History

1949 "Death of a Salesman" opens on Broadway.

1962 The Soviet Union exchanges captured American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers for Rudolf Abel, a Soviet spy held by the United States.

1968 Figure skater Peggy Fleming wins the only U.S. gold medal of the Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France.

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PERSONALITIES

Scold-y Judge the Next Courtroom Media Star

Lindsay Lohan pleaded not guilty Wednesday to felony grand theft of a \$2,500 necklace, after being scolded by the judge. "Look around this room," Superior Court Judge Keith Schwartz told Lohan. "Everybody else has to follow the law. You're no different than anyone else. So, please, don't push your luck." Schwartz set bail at \$40,000. Lohan spoke little during the hearing. (AP)



POOL/AP

"Also, Ms. Lohan, that dress is terribly unflattering," Judge Schwartz added.

"If you violate the law, I will remand you and set no bail, and your attorney won't be successful this time."

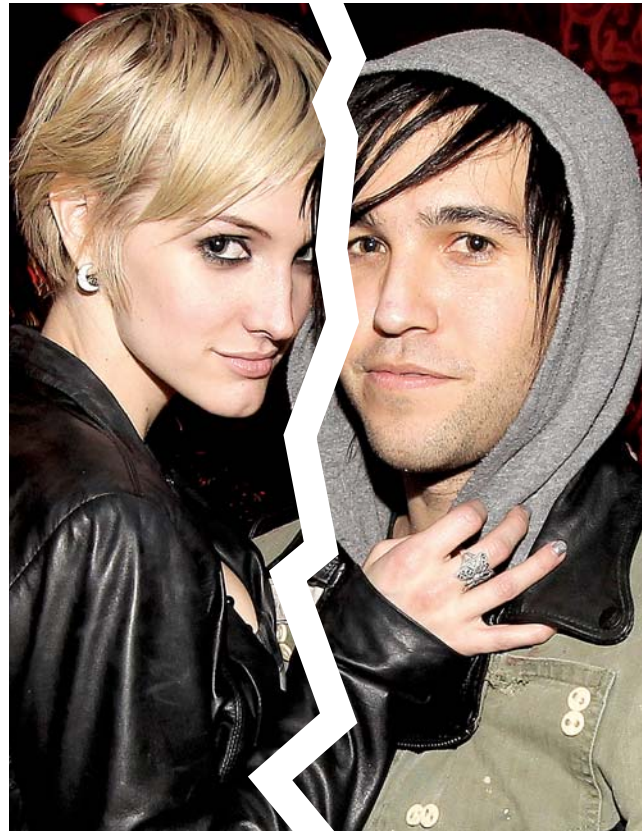
— MORE FROM **SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE KEITH SCHWARTZ'S** POLITE BUT STERN BEAT-DOWN OF LINDSAY LOHAN IN HIS COURT ON WEDNESDAY.



SIDESHOWS

Lifelike Miley Cyrus Puppet And Her Disney Attorney Give Amazing Performance

Miley Cyrus told Marie Claire magazine that she regrets being caught on video smoking salvia from a bong, even though salvia is legal. Other users "aren't Miley Cyrus. They're not role models," she said. "So for me it was a bad decision, because of my fans and because of what I stand for." (EXPRESS)



CHRISTOPHER POLK/GETTY IMAGES

KEY WORDS

Difficult, Friends, Child

Ashlee Simpson filed for divorce from Fall Out Boy bassist Pete Wentz on Wednesday in Los Angeles, citing irreconcilable differences. The singer and actress is seeking physical custody of their 2-year-old son. "We remain friends and deeply committed and loving parents to our son, Bronx, whose happiness and well-being remains our No. 1 priority," the former couple said in a joint statement. (AP)

Redemption

**Sheen Further Explores Fractions**

Charlie Sheen has offered to pay one-third of "Two and a Half Men's" crew's salaries to make up for the production hiatus caused by his trip to rehab—if CBS and Warner Bros. each pay one-third, too, TMZ.com reported. A source told the website that Sheen is upset no one else offered. (EXPRESS)

MORE REDEMPTION

Courtney Discovers Magic of Opening Her Mail

Courtney Love paid off her \$4,000 debt to Los Angeles florist My Secret Garden, and the owners asked a judge to dismiss their small-claims suit against Love, TMZ.com reported. One of the owners said there are no hard feelings, and that My Secret Garden will still "be her florist any day." (EXPRESS)

The Washington Post



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